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ISRAEL TO HALT FIGHTING IN GAZA AS FOOD CRISIS LOOMS

Israeli military's pause is for 10 hours a day and meant to open secure routes for aid delivery to desperate Palestinians

FLOUR, SUGAR AND CANNED FOOD AIRDROPPED

Israel said it would begin a 'tactical pause' in Gaza City, Deir al-Balah and Muwasi, three areas with a large populace, to 'increase the scale of humanitarian aid' entering the territory. The military also said Sunday that it carried out aid airdrops into Gaza, which included packages of aid with flour, sugar and canned food

GLOBAL CRITICISM OF ISRAEL BEHIND MOVE

- Experts have warned for months of the risk of a famine in Gaza, where Israel has restricted aid because it says Hamas siphons off goods to help bolster its rule, a claim that Hamas has denied
- Images from Gaza in recent days of emaciated children have fanned global criticism of Israel, including by close allies | P9

5 lakh

PEOPLE IN GAZA ARE EXPERIENCING FAMINE LIKE CONDITIONS: U.N.

CHENNAI ▪ MADURAI ▪ VIJAYAWADA ▪ BENGALURU ▪ KOCHI ▪ HYDERABAD ▪ VISAKHAPATNAM ▪ COIMBATORE ▪ KOZHIKODE ▪ THIRUVANANTHAPURAM ▪ BELAGAVI ▪ BHUBANESWAR ▪ SHIVAMOGGA ▪ MANGALURU ▪ TIRUPATI ▪ TIRUCHY ▪ TIRUNELVELI ▪ SAMBALPUR ▪ HUBBALLI ▪ DHARMAPURI ▪ KOTTAYAM ▪ KANNUR ▪ VILLUPURAM ▪ KOLLAM ▪ TADEPALLIGUDEM ▪ NAGAPATTINAM ▪ THRISSUR ▪ KALABURAGI

Parliament set for fiery debate on Op Sindoor

Congress issues whip to its members to be present in LS for three days from Monday

PREETHA NAIR @ New Delhi

WITH the Lok Sabha set to begin a three-day debate on the Pahalgam attack and Operation Sindoor on Monday, the ruling alliance and the Opposition parties have lined up top speakers to put across their points of view.

The Congress on Sunday issued a whip to its MPs to be present in the Lok Sabha.

After a week-long standoff between the Opposition and the Treasury benches, the Monday session is expected to be stormy as some Opposition parties are expected to raise the ongoing special intensive revision (SIR) in Bihar as well. However, Union minister Kiran Rijiju has said that every issue cannot be taken up for discussion in Parliament at once.

While Defence Minister Rajnath Singh is likely to open the discussion from the ruling camp, the Congress will field deputy leader of Lok Sabha Gaurav Gogoi to open the debate. The Congress line-up includes general secretaries Priyanka Gandhi and K C Venugopal, who will speak on the opening day. Leader of Opposition Rahul Gandhi is likely to speak on Tuesday, party sources said. The Congress has been allotted three hours to speak.

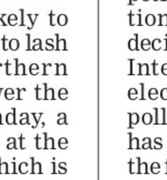
Sources said Home Minister Amit Shah and External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar will speak, while Prime Minister Narendra Modi may intervene to explain his government's track record on national security.

The whip issued by Congress Chief Whip Kodikunnil Suresh said" "Be present positively in Lok Sabha from 11:00 AM onwards till adjournment of the House on Monday, Tuesday & Wednesday and support the Party Stand. This may be treated as three-line whip".

With 65 minutes allotted for the Samajwadi Party, Akhilesh Yadav and Rajeev Rai will speak on the issue.

Besides its battery of leaders like Anurag Thakur, Sudhanshu Trivedi and Nishikant Dubey, the NDA is likely to field members from the multi-party delegations that travelled to over 30 world capitals to present India's case after Operation Sindoor. They include Shrikant Shinde of the Shiv Sena, Sanjay Jha of JD(U), and Harish Balayogi of TDP.

The Rajya Sabha will take up the issue on Tuesday.



Tharoor to speak?

While there is no clarity if Congress will ask Shashi Tharoor to speak, sources said Lok Sabha Speaker can invite him to speak since he led an important delegation

Chola kings' statues will be installed in TN: Modi

P THIRUSELVAM @ Gangaikonda Cholapuram (Ariyalur)

PRIME Minister Narendra Modi on Sunday announced that statues of emperors Raja Raja Chola and Rajendra Chola I will be installed in Tamil Nadu. Speaking at an event at Gangaikonda Cholapuram in Ariyalur commemorating 1,000 years of Rajendra Chola I's maritime expedition to Southeast Asia and marking the Aadi Thiruvathirai festival at the temple, Modi said, "While taking pride in the tradition of our Bharat, I take a pledge today that we will install grand statues of King Raja Raja Chola and his son Rajendra Chola I in Tamil Nadu. These statues will become modern pillars of our historical consciousness."

In a 45-minute speech in Hindi, translated into Tamil, Modi spoke at length about the contributions of the Chola emperors and the Shaivite tradition to the country. Referring to the Chola era as one of the golden ages of India, he said, "The Chola kings bound India with the thread of cultural unity. Today, our government is carrying forward the same ideas of the Cholas. We are strengthening these centuries-old threads of unity through events like the Kashi Tamil Sangamam and Saurashtra Tamil Sangamam."

On the Shaivite tradition, Modi said, "Our Shaivite tradition has played a huge role in the cultural formation of India. The Chola emperors were important architects of this heritage. That is why even today, Tamil Nadu is one of the living centres of the Shaivite tradition."

Referring to the Chola rulers' extensive diplomatic and trade relations with Sri Lanka, the Maldives, and Southeast Asia, Modi noted the coincidence of his return from the Maldives the previous day. Pointing out that while historians speak of Britain's Magna Carta in the context of democracy, Modi said the Chola Empire had implemented democratic electoral practices centuries earlier through the Kudavolai Amaippu system.

The PM said the legacy of Raja Raja Chola and Rajendra Chola I is synonymous with India's identity and pride.

Celebrating Birth Anniversary of Rajendra Chola-I,
Commemoration of 1000 Years of his Maritime Expedition
in South East Asia and Commencement of Construction
of Gangaikonda Cholapuram Temple
Aadi Thiruvathirai Festival
Chief Guest
Shri Narendra Modi

PM Narendra Modi, TN Governor R N Ravi and other leaders at the Aadi Thiruvathirai event in Gangaikonda Cholapuram, Ariyalur district, on Sunday | EXPRESS

Memo to Modi: Stalin repeats key demands

CHENNAI: In a memo submitted to PM Modi during his visit to Tamil Nadu on Saturday, CM M K Stalin reiterated key demands, including the immediate release of Samagra Shiksha funds, approval for long-pending railway links in TN and a permanent solution to the conflict between TN fishers and Sri Lankan Navy

EXPRESS READ

Centre mulls bringing changes to MV Act

New Delhi: The Centre is working to amend the Motor Vehicles Act to ensure that key guidelines issued by it become binding on states, sources said. The changes would make select Central guidelines mandatory, particularly those related to road safety, vehicle regulation and transport policy | P7

Fake ambassador visited 30 countries

New Delhi: Harshvardhan Jain, who posed as the ambassador of several micronations and ran a fake embassy out of a rented bungalow in Ghaziabad, visited 30 foreign nations nearly 200 times between 2005 and 2015, the STF probe revealed. The STF also found 25 shell companies registered under Jain's name.

Six dead, 35 hurt in Haridwar stampede

NARENDRA SETHI @ Dehradun

AN avoidable stampede on the path leading to the Mansa Devi Temple in Haridwar, Uttarakhand, claimed the lives of six devotees on Sunday, while more than 35 were injured, some with critical injuries.

Rumours of a broken electric wire near the stairs to the temple triggered panic among people, leading to the stampede, Haridwar SSP Pramendra Singh Dobal said.

The deceased were identified as Arush (12), Shakal Dev (18), Vicky (18), Vipin (18), Vakil and Shanti.

What began as a routine spiritual journey for hundreds quickly turned into a nightmare. Devotees were making their way to offer prayers or returning after 'darshan' when the rumour caused panic, leading to the tragedy.

"It was sheer chaos. People started screaming about electrocution, and everyone just pushed forward," recounted Pankaj Chaurasia, a devotee who managed to escape. "Those who fell on the narrow, crowded stairwell had no chance. People were trampled as the crowd surged forward."

The incident took place around 9 am. Being a Sunday, a large crowd of devotees had gathered at the temple atop the Shivalik hills at a height of more than 500 feet. Videos from the spot showed a massive rush of people, including children and women, near the temple.

Uttarakhand Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhami, while announcing a financial assistance of ₹2 lakh to next of kin of the deceased and ₹50,000 to the injured, ordered a probe.

President Droupadi Murmu and Prime Minister Narendra Modi were among those who expressed grief over the loss of lives in the stampede. Modi, in a post on X, said: "Condolences to those who lost their loved ones. May the injured recover soon."

Mahant Ravindra Puri, President of the temple trust, said, "The stampede was caused by someone falling near the temple, not due to a broken wire."

An injured person being taken for treatment after a stampede at Mansa Devi temple, in Haridwar, on Sunday | PTI

Tomato prices to touch ₹85/kg if rain continues in North India

V VELAYUDHAM @ Kolar

TOMATO prices are likely to double if rain continues to lash Maharashtra and northern parts of the country over the next few days. On Sunday, a crate of tomato (15 kg) at the Kolar APMC market, which is the second-biggest market in Asia, sold for Rs 750, while only three days ago, the prices hovered around Rs 250-350 per crate. If the situation continues, by next week, the retail price of tomato would touch Rs 85 per kg in Karnataka, wholesale traders predicted.

Kiran, secretary, APMC market, said heavy rain in Maharashtra, which is a major producer of the crop, has affected supplies to Uttar Pradesh, West Bengal, Haryana and also Tamil Nadu. This has spurred the demand for tomatoes from Kolar. On Sunday, over 200 vehicles carrying over 2,500 tonnes of the fruit left from the APMC market to different destinations, he added.

Even in Kolar, the demand is high for quality tomatoes as a large number of farmers had not taken up tomato farming as prices were falling steeply over the last four months, he said.

CMR Srinath, a tomato farmer and merchant at the APMC market, said he got information that heavy rain has affected the tomato crop in large areas of Maharashtra. If showers continue in the neighbouring state for another week, the prices at the Kolar APMC market would touch Rs 1,000 to Rs 1,200 per crate, he said.

Bihar SIR: Over 90% voters submitted forms, says EC

MUKESH RANJAN @ New Delhi

A day before the Supreme Court is set to hear a batch of petitions challenging the Election Commission of India's decision to carry out a Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of electoral rolls in Bihar, the poll panel on Sunday said it has successfully completed the first phase of the exercise to collect enumeration forms.

Enumeration forms were submitted by by 7.24 crore electors (91.69%) out of a total of 7.89 crore, the ECI said.

In an official statement, the ECI said 65 lakh voters will be excluded from the upcoming draft electoral rolls to be published on August 1. These exclusions include 22 lakh deceased voters, 36 lakh who have either permanently relocated or were not traceable, and 7 lakh who were registered at multiple places.

The revision drive aimed to ensure that no elector is left behind, with targeted outreach to first-time voters, urban residents, migrants, senior citizens, and persons with disabilities, the panel said.

"The initiative also witnessed a strong political response, with all 12 major parties participating. Notably, the number of booth level agents (BLAs) surged by over 16 percent, with CPI(M) and Congress registering more than a 100 percent increase in BLA nominations. CPI(M) reported a dramatic 1083 rise, while the BJP led in absolute numbers with over 53,000 BLAs, followed by RJD and JD(U)," it said.

The draft rolls, available both online and offline on August 1, will be open for claims and objections for 1 month.

NDA GOVT. IN BIHAR FOR 20 YEARS RUNNING AND 11 YEARS FOR CENTRE. WHO IS RESPONSIBLE
SIR
MANIPULATION AND IRREGULARITIES AHED OF THE UPCOMING ELECTION
-S.K.D.CONG.
NDA AND EC HAVE AN ALLINCE BETWEEN THEM.

Congress workers in Kolkata protest against Bihar's revision of electoral rolls on Sunday | PTI

INDIA bloc asks EC to discontinue exercise

With over 65 lakh voters at the risk of exclusion after the first phase of Bihar's SIR exercise, INDIA bloc parties on Sunday asked the Election Commission of India to stop the process immediately, alleging that the data is 'flawed'. At a joint conference held by the bloc, leaders said SIR is based on 'opacity' and termed it 'institutional arrogance' | P7

TCS to cut workforce by 2% amid shift towards AI

UMA KANNAN @ Bengaluru

THE AI storm is finally here, and as feared it is taking away jobs. Tata Consultancy Services (TCS), India's largest IT services firm, plans to lay off 2% of its global workforce in line with the company's broader strategy to become 'future-ready'. In absolute terms, 12,260 employees in the middle and the senior grades will lose jobs this year. TCS's workforce, as on June 30, stood at 6,13,069.

In a statement, TCS said it is on a journey to become a future-ready organisation, and this includes strategic initiatives including investing in new-tech areas, entering new markets, deploying AI at scale for clients and for the company, creating next-gen infra, and realigning workforce model. "Towards this, a number of reskilling and redeployment initiatives have been underway... We will also be releasing associates from the organization whose deployment may not be feasible," it added.

HR experts directly link such layoffs to AI as it automates tasks. Though TCS has not spoken about AI displacing employees, in a recent post-earnings conference, company officials said they are focusing more on upskilling employees and making them AI-ready.

Aditya Narayan Mishra, MD and CEO of CIEL HR, said AI has emerged as a major disruptor in the IT services industry. "As processes have become standardised, AI tools are handling them with speed and accuracy. This is also redefining the role of people managers, whose traditional responsibilities such as delegating, monitoring, and supporting teams are now being augmented or replaced by AI," he said.

PLOT UNRAVELS

Fearing stigma, woman kills HIV+ve brother

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Chitradurga

A woman and her husband allegedly strangled her HIV-positive brother to death as they were ashamed that his infection would stigmatise their family. In a strange unspooling of incidents, the deceased Mallikarjun (23), who hailed from Dhummi village in Holalkere taluk of Chitradurga district, was allegedly strangled to death by his sister Nisha and brother-in-law Manjunath on Sunday.

On July 23, Mallikarjun was heading to his village in a car along with his friends when they met with an accident near Aymangala of Hiriyur taluk. Mallikarjun suffered a fracture in his leg and was initially treated at Chitradurga. He was later shifted to a private hospital in Davanagere, where a routine blood test was conducted. But it revealed that Mallikarjun was HIV-positive. Hospital authorities advised him to get treated at the Kasturba Medical College and Hospital in Manipal.

He was put in an ambulance and as he was being ferried, Nisha and Manjunath, who were accompanying him, allegedly strangled him to death.

Posing it as a death due to his injuries, Nisha and Manjunath shifted Mallikarjun's body to Dhummi for cremation. But the villagers noticed a telltale mark on his neck and raised suspicion. Mallikarjun's father Nagaraj filed a complaint with the Holalkere police, who unearthed grisly details of the murder. Nisha has been arrested.

INDIA IN ENGLAND

Hundred reasons to smile for dramatic comeback

Ravindra Jadeja celebrates his well-fought hundred against England at Old Trafford on Sunday | AFP

TNIE in England
FIROZ MIRZA
@MANCHESTER

RELIEF, joy and exuberance. Those were the emotions running through the Indian dressing room on Sunday evening. Not too long ago, nay hours one may say, they were staring down the barrel, staring at inevitability with awe. England were toying with their bowlers and captain Shubman Gill seemed to have no answer. A lead of 311 runs and India were pushed to the wall.

Any chance of batting out three sessions on Sunday started looking even more grim when England captain Ben Stokes took the ball from the other end and sent back wellset overnight batter K L Rahul. Gill, however, completed his century before a lapse of concentration minutes before lunch cost his wicket.

The job, however, was not over. Ravindra Jadeja picked from from Lord's, and in the company of Washington Sundar, enacted one of India's greatest comebacks. Draws in Test cricket do have dramas and ample was in store as the evening winded towards dull draw. With both the batters closing in on their hundreds England captain wanted to shake hands but India wanted to continue. Though England players livid everything was within the laws. Part-timer Harry Brook was pressed into action and he bowled some donkey drops as both batters got to their respective centuries.

Now, India go into the last Test with head held high and chin up. They will try and give everything at The Oval and draw the series 2-2. P11

ALMANAC TODAY

- **Monday:** 28.07.2025 • **Year:** Vishwavasu • **Ayana:** Dakhsinayana
- **Ritu:** Varsha • **Masa:** Sravana • **Paksha:** Sukla • **Tithi:** Chathurthi 11.33 pm
- **Nakshatra:** Purvaphalguni .6.49 pm • Moon in Kanya Rashi • **Rahukaala:** 07:30 am to 09:00 am
- **Gulikakala**: 01:30 pm to 03:00 pm • **Yamaganda:** 10:30 am to 12:00 pm

WEATHER

MIN 20°C | MAX 26°C

FORECAST
Passing showers. Cloudy

Sunrise 06.04 am
Sunset 06.47 pm
Moonrise 09.01 am
Moonset 09.28 pm

LEGALISED ENCROACHMENT

CITY LAKES UNDER SIEGE WITH NEW LAKE LAW

Activists say govt bowing to builder lobby by reducing buffer zones

INDRA S @Bengaluru

LAKE activists in Bengaluru have raised strong objections to the state cabinet's approval of the Tank Conservation and Development Authority (Amendment) Bill, 2025, which proposes reducing buffer zones around lakes to as little as 3 metres, allowing commercial and industrial activity. Activists feared that he move will accelerate encroachments and endanger lake ecosystems.

With less than 5% of wetlands left in the city, activists have called the government's move extremely irresponsible and dangerous, claiming it is not in the interest of the public but rather serves real estate lobbies. They alleged that the bill is designed to legitimise large-scale encroachments under the guise of development.

Buffer zones are an integral part of wetlands but are being taken for granted, activists argued. They emphasised that the state government cannot override central legislation. "It is absurd that citizens now have to approach the courts to remind the government of this basic constitutional principle," they said, referring to existing central laws like the wetland rules and NGT rulings.

"We have lost nearly 95% of our original wetlands in Bengaluru. What remains is barely 5%, and now even that is under threat," said Sandeep Anirudhan, Convenor, Coalition for Water Security and Citizens Agenda for Bengaluru. He added that buffer zones are not separate entities that can be tampered with, as they play a critical role in filtration, flood mitigation, and providing sanctuary for flora and fauna.

Lake Bill proposes reducing buffer zones around lakes to as little as 3 metres

Drawing from satellite data, he said, "In 1970, Bengaluru had over 70% green cover and 20-30% wetlands. Today, green cover is down to 2-3%, wetlands are just 4-5%, and concrete has taken over 95% of the city. This kind of destruction is a one-way path to environmental collapse."

Ram Prasad, co-founder of Friends of Lakes, said, "The government doesn't have the courage to remove illegal constructions in lake buffer zones. Instead, they are trying to legitimise these encroachments by passing this bill. This is nothing but a pro-builder, real estate-driven move, done at the cost of public safety."

He accused the government of bypassing court orders that mandate the removal of encroachments. "This is a calculated escape from judicial directions to favour builders. It's a betrayal of people's lives and the environment," he said, adding that there is not a single lake in Bengaluru where the buffer zone has not been encroached upon.

"This amendment is anti-people, anti-environment, and pro-encroachment. It will accelerate urban flooding, worsen the city's water crisis, and destroy what little biodiversity remains. We urge the government to immediately withdraw this destructive proposal and instead focus on strengthening lake protection norms, penalising encroachers, and rejuvenating existing water bodies," said activist Jagadish Reddy Nagappa, Varthur and Bellandur Lakes Rejuvenation Initiative Committee member.

Activists also pointed out that some of the recently proposed Brand Bengaluru projects include building roads in lake buffer zones and added that rather than following the law, they're trying to change it.

They questioned who would take responsibility in the event of future disasters and further asked whose exchequer will pay for public relief when disaster strikes? The responsibility will lie solely with those who brought in this bill.

Dengue drive pays off: +ve cases drop 75%

AKNISREE KARTHIK @Bengaluru

SUSTAINED efforts by the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) to combat dengue appears to have borne fruit with just 1,676 positive cases reported in the city from January 1 till July 23. In contrast, 7,280 dengue positive cases were reported in BBMP limits during the corresponding period last year.

With health officials on alert to curb the number of dengue cases, the Palike has achieved more than 75 per cent drop in the positive cases, and, as per data from the health and family welfare department, no deaths were reported this year.

As per the data, there were 2,313 dengue cases and zero deaths in 2022. However, it witnessed nearly a fourfold jump with 8,609 dengue cases with four deaths in 2023. In 2024 (till December first week), the positive cases almost doubled, and there were a whopping 14,950 cases with three deaths.

CASE FILE

Year	Cases	Deaths
2022	2,313	0
2023	8,609	4
2024 (till Dec 3)	14,950	3
2025 (till July 23)	1,676	0

Source: Health and family welfare department

Sharing details on the measures taken by BBMP that helped cut down the cases, BBMP Chief Commissioner Maheshwar Rao said, "The civic body took up multiple measures to check the dengue spike this year. Though we have dengue cases, the situation is far better than last year. The drill against dengue is continuing and we have put our health officials on alert. They are taking all the necessary precautionary measures, and are empowered to take suitable actions to curb the spread."

Along with the awareness campaigns, BBMP has taken efforts to identify all those areas where there is water accumulation. Special focus is on low-lying areas, which are fertile ground for dengue breeding, he said, adding that in such areas the BBMP has intensified the spraying.

"Not only spraying, which controls the mosquito population, we are educating students and people on dengue larva source reduction by ensuring that they do not let water stagnate," Rao said.

CALL OF THE WILD

Visitors get their faces painted as part of an awareness campaign to promote sustainaibility and protect tigers. The drive was conducted by the NGO 'Save Tiger First' at Gopalan Mall at Sirsi Circle on Sunday | KEVIN NASHON

EXPRESS READ

Traffic restrictions on ORR from July 28

The Bengaluru Traffic Police have announced traffic restrictions along the Outer Ring Road (ORR) between Karthik Nagar Junction and Kalamandir, under the jurisdiction of HAL Airport Traffic Police Station, effective from July 28. No entry from the Kalamandir side to the ORR via the service road near Jeevika Hospital, Marathahalli. Entry from near the Yamaha Showroom to the service road will be banned. Commuters from Chinnappanahalli Railway Gate heading towards Kadubeesanahalli or Devarabeesanahalli must use the service road near Jeevika Hospital and enter the ORR near the showroom. Vehicles from Mahadevapura or Karthik Nagar ORR heading to Whitefield or Varthur can enter the service road at Kalamandir Junction and continue towards Kundalahalli or Varthur. **ENS**

Rotary Visionaries installs new prez, secy

Dr Abraham Ebenezer was installed as president of the Rotary Bangalore Visionaries (RBV) club, while Archana Rajesh took office as the Secretary on Friday. The Installation Ceremony was presided over by District Governor Rtn BR Sridhar, who emphasised the importance of undertaking impactful projects that benefit the community, particularly the underprivileged. In his acceptance speech, President Rtn Dr Ebenezer emphasised the importance of putting the needs of others before our own and urged members to "Unite for Good" and collectively strive to create a brighter future for all. **ENS**

Abraham Ebenezer Archana Rajesh

SJC institute holds workshop on AICTE Atal-Vaani

Bengaluru: SJC Institute of Technology organised a two-day teacher development programme on the topic 'Semiconductors for 5G and IoT Applications: Enabling the Future of Connected Technologies'. The institute emphasised that the programme aims to build a strong knowledge ecosystem in regional languages in collaboration with the All India Council for Technical Education's (AICTE) VAANI (Vital Advocacy for the Advancement and Nurturing of Indian Languages), by encouraging research publications in regional languages. The programme aims to provide a platform for faculty knowledge exchange and skill development in the rapidly evolving areas of semiconductor technology, 5G communications and Internet of Things (IoT) applications, the institute said. Dr C P Ravikumar, founder and former director of Technical Talent Development, Texas Instruments, who was the guest of honour, spoke about the impact of semiconductor technology on 5G telecommunications and the Internet of Things. **ENS**

PoP idol sales continue as ban enforcement falters

BOSKY KHANNA @Bengaluru

WITH less than a month to go for the Ganesha festival, state government agencies, particularly the Karnataka State Pollution Control Board (KSPCB), are yet to crackdown on Plaster of Paris (PoP) and heavy lead paint idols manufactured and sold across the state.

So far, raids have been conducted only in two places -- Bengaluru's Dasarahalli zone and Hubballi where 1,000 and 180 idols, respectively, were seized.

"It has been a year since the government issued orders banning PoP idols. From the last last festive season till now, all the idols that were stored should have been seized and scientifically destroyed. Now, when the festival is just a month away, insignificant checks have started," said an environment expert working with the KSPCB.

On Thursday, Forest Minister Eshwar B Khandre had reiterated the state government's 2023 ban and directed officials to take stock of the clay and POP idols and strictly enforce the ban.

Sellers, however, pointed out that they have old stocks which they have invested upon and need to be cleared. "These idols were made during the previous years and I have paid for each of them. They are to be used in community/public spaces. The government should give us at least one-year time to ensure that they are disposed. Nobody wants second-hand idols for festivities, which the government has been promoting," said Mallappa, a trader on Mysuru Road.

BBMP's construction and debris waste management officials said there are incinerator plants to scientifically dispose PoP idols, but no idols come to them due to religious sentiments.

The KSPCB banned the use of PoP idols in 2016. The National Green Tribunal issued orders banning sale, manufacture and usage of PoP idols in 2023 and the Karnataka government issued orders banning them in August 2024. The chief secretary also issued orders for the formation of committees under the district administrations to ensure sale, manufacture and usage of eco-friendly idols and green crackers.

KSPCB senior environmental officer G Yateesh said, "The board has written to the district administrations to seize all those manufacturing and selling PoP idols. But the police and district administration is not cooperating. People should also understand and stop purchasing. We are aware of the idols and seizures are being done. People must also come forward and give details of where they see such idols."

How to identify PoP, lead paint idols

- Lift the idol; if it is solid inside and hard then it is PoP
- Idols made with eco-friendly items like clay, gunny sacks and hay stacks are light and not hard
- Eco-friendly paints are not bright, shiny and glossy

Daily Starscope

PETER VIDAL

28TH July : We can find a simple numerology in todays date. It's the 28th, and if we add two and eight, we get ten, and if we add one and zero, the answer is one. This matters because one is the origin of everything. For us, this means it's a good time to make a fresh start in whatever area means most to us.

ARIES (Mar 21 - Apr. 20)
May I advise you to keep a close watch on all financial transactions? Today's epic planetary influences will have an amazing range of effects, but the impact on your financial, emotional and material security seems to be greatest. If competing for a prize, go for broke.

TAURUS (Apr. 21 - May 21)
Today's planets push you forward with increasing speed. Your chances for personal success are now the best for a very long time indeed. Press on with established plans by all means, but steer clear of anything that may lead to confrontation, or smacks of dishonesty.

GEMINI (May 22 - June 21)
You may imagine that you know what is going on, but you are probably mistaken. Rarely have you been so likely to pick up the wrong end of the stick. Please take proper advice in all legal, foreign and travel matters. After all, if you're properly prepared, then you'll be one step ahead of the game.

CANCER (June 22 - July 23)
Jupiter and Venus are as benevolent a pair of planets as you could wish to have watching over you. Generosity on your part will win friends and impress people, protecting you in the present and gaining you allies for the future: give now to receive later.

LEO (July 24 - Aug. 23)
With so much planetary activity taking place today, chiefly a stunning Sun-Moon angle, you'd do very well to take centre stage. Watch out for flying missiles, though, and duck if anything comes in your direction. Emotionally, by the way, family relationships take first place.

VIRGO (Aug. 24 - Sept. 23)
I am sure that you have been put out, pushed around and generally had your interests ignored, but then that's all part of life's rich tapestry. This is no time to complain about the world being unfair. You'll just have to live with it like everyone else!

LIBRA (Sept. 24 - Oct. 23)
Recent unexpected developments at work have not undermined your confidence or commitment. Far from it. If your professional or worldly ambitions have been dented, I suspect that the real cause lies elsewhere. An intimate relationship could be proving a little costly, but a generous gesture will be worth it.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24 - Nov. 22)
Today's lunar alignments are about the most intriguing that there have been for a very long time. The news will be exciting, even if you are personally enjoying placid times. It's doubly significant for all new relationships, so go forward with hope in your heart!

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23 - Dec. 22)
All the quite extraordinary planetary activity now taking place must be harnessed and used to channel your noble, virtuous and selfless instincts. You have a clear choice whether to go all out for personal interest or to realise that material security is, in the grand scheme of things, purely temporary.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 23 - Jan. 20)
It's a day of major planetary configurations, but whether you are directly involved in today's dramatic events, or merely a passive observer is a moot point. I take the view that the latter is more likely. That way you can put your feet up while partners pick up the pieces.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 - Feb.19)
Today's lunar patterns are among the most striking to hit your sign for a good few months. If you're not knocked slightly off course there'll be something wrong, for it means that you're not directly in tune with your stars! After all, nobody promised it would be easy!

PISCES (Feb. 20 - Mar 20)
A helpful aspect between the Sun and Jupiter is only one of a series of benevolent planetary alignments which is causing you to think again. There'll probably be a major mystery to solve. The answers will come next month, but you might not get the full picture for another three months.

Solutions to Saturday's puzzle

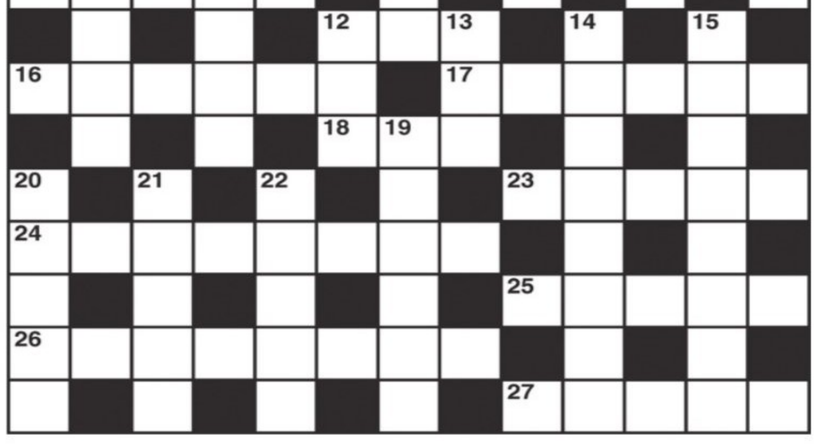
					7	3		6
6	5			2			9	
		2	3					1
		1						9
			6		3			
7						8		
1					2	4		
	3			4			5	8
8		6	7					

1	9	2	3	4	6	5	8	7
7	4	8	5	9	1	2	6	3
5	3	6	7	2	8	9	1	4
4	2	5	9	6	7	8	3	1
8	1	9	2	3	4	7	5	6
3	6	7	8	1	5	4	9	2
2	5	4	1	8	3	6	7	9
6	8	3	4	7	9	1	2	5
9	7	1	6	5	2	3	4	8

SU DO KU HARD

TEST YOUR NUMBER CRUNCHING SKILL WITH OUR UNIQUE PUZZLE

Fill in the grid with digits in such a manner that every row, every column and every 3X3 box accommodates the digits 1 to 9, without repeating any.



CROSS WORD

ACROSS

1 Length of the links (5)
8 Haydn's oratorio producing unusual reaction (8)
9 What could be finer than a riddle? (5)
10 Prevent attendant joining strike (8)
11 Stop up for the finish (5)
12 A shore having no mineral residue (3)
16 Grubby residence (6)
17 Unit missing from oddly mutational explosive (6)
18 Game attempt which scores (3)
23 Creep around in a type of rubber sole (5)
24 Full of despair he takes less work in (8)
25 Twelve months to get the point is long (5)
26 Nevertheless last (5,3)
27 Result of ignorance of a composer (5)

DOWN

2 Textile manufacturer's bequest to his son? (8)
3 Overt sin of one who risks capital? (8)
4 Deserter held by soldiers is not charged (6)
5 Keeps on about needing musical instruments (5)
6 Atlas reveals it is printed in brown (5)
7 Start writing notes out (5)
12 A New Testament industrialist (3)
13 It's cut and dried (3)
14 Just treatment for honest card players (4,4)
15 Holds a candle to matches (8)
19 Take stock of others (6)
20 Teach badly - and the pupils may have to (5)
21 Notices a symptom of measles (5)
22 Look awfully large (5)

SATURDAY'S SOLUTIONS

Across: 1 Intolerant, 6 Otic, 10 Erase, 11 Centipede, 12 Especial, 13 Inter, 15 Riot Act, 17 Sets out, 19 Aileron, 21 Care for, 22 Wrath, 24 Constant, 27 Timepiece, 28 Ocean, 29 Rude, 30 Transposes.

Down: 1 Item, 2 Toadstool, 3 Liege, 4 Receipt, 5 Nonplus, 7 Theft, 8 Clearstory, 9 Minister, 14 Tread water, 16 Airships, 18 Offenders, 20 Nuclear, 21 Canteen, 23 Aimed, 25 Troop, 26 Inns.

JUMBLE

BY DAVID L. HOYT AND JEFF KNUREK

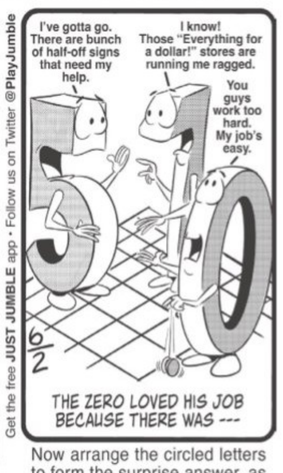
UNSCRAMBLE THESE JUMBLES, ONE LETTER TO EACH SQUARE, TO FORM FOUR ORDINARY WORDS.

RNFOT

ANGTI

LIVNIO

WOHGTR


I've gotta go. There are bunch of half-off signs that need my help.
I know! Those "Everything for a dollar!" stores are running me ragged.
You guys work too hard. My job's easy.
6/2
THE ZERO LOVED HIS JOB BECAUSE THERE WAS ---
Get the free JUST JUMBLE app • Follow us on Twitter @Play-Jumble

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Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

(Answers tomorrow)

Saturday's Jumbles: ORBIT GAUGE SEASON HEALTH
Answer: They asked if she would take a photo of them on the beach, and she said — "SHORE" THING

A man who allegedly attempted to assault a woman cop during night rounds and obstructed her from performing her duty was arrested by Manipal police. The accused is Sagar (25) from Kodavoor in Udupi. Police said the incident occurred on Saturday at 2.30 am

FAKE E-COMMERCE WEBSITES TARGET ONLINE SHOPPERS

Fraudsters clone shopping sites to steal personal data through fake links

RAKSHITH GOWDA @Bengaluru

WITH the rise in online shopping, especially during festive seasons, cybercriminals are exploiting unsuspecting customers through fake e-commerce websites that closely imitate legitimate portals. These fraudulent platforms lure users with flashy deals and deep discounts, aiming to steal money and sensitive personal information.

A senior officer from a CEN (Cybercrime, Economic Offences and Narcotics) police station in Bengaluru told TNIE that two main types of scams are currently being reported. In one, fraudsters create counterfeit versions of popular brand websites. In another, they launch entirely new but fake e-commerce platforms. Both are heavily promoted on social media and messaging apps to attract buyers.

"In most of the cases, customers are tricked into paying in advance but never receive the products. The fraudsters either collect money without delivering goods or steal users' data through malicious links," the officer said.

He warned that such fake sites often contain subtle spelling errors in brand names, which go unnoticed. Clicking unknown links or trusting deals that seem too good to be true increases the risk. "Always verify the URL, look out for misspellings in the domain, and double-check offers through official brand websites," he said.

Another senior officer from the North division added that some companies have filed police complaints after receiving disputes over orders they never processed. "Victims who lose small amounts, between Rs 1,000 and Rs 2,000, often don't report it, which allows these scams to continue unchecked," he said.

Authorities urge online shoppers to remain cautious and report suspicious websites to prevent further fraud.

CLOUDED GLOW

Dark clouds loom over an illuminated Vidhana Soudha with the promise of rain. Visitors stop to take selfies before the showers begin | SHASHIDHAR BYRAPPA

Drugs seized, three held in late night op

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@Bengaluru

IN a surprise late-night operation against drug peddlers and consumers, North Division police visited the houses of 106 individuals with a history of drug-related offences. During the special drive, police arrested three persons and seized drugs.

The operation was led by DCP-North Babasab Nemagoud, along with three ACPs, 13 police inspectors and other police personnel.

DCP Nemagoud told *TNIE* that the special operation was conducted as part of efforts to tackle drug peddling in the city. A total of 106 homes of individuals previously involved in drug peddling and consumption were searched.

During the operation, three individuals were found in possession of drugs and were arrested. Two cases were registered at RT Nagar police station and one at Sanjaynagar police station. Police seized around 1.65kg of ganja and 150gm of hash-ish oil from the accused, Nemagoud said.

He added that 11 individuals were booked for consuming drugs after testing positive during the drive. However others were warned to appear for court hearings and to avoid engaging in any kind of unlawful activities. The DCP further said that the details of their current activities were also collected.

Last week, North Division police had conducted raids on the houses of rowdy-sheeters.

EXPRESS READ

Cop tries to break up fight, attacked with dagger

Bengaluru: The Chamarajpet police have arrested four individuals for allegedly attacking a head constable with a dagger, after he intervened to stop a fight that was creating public nuisance. The incident occurred near 2nd Main Road in Valmiki Nagar on Saturday night. As a result of the attack, the victim, head constable Santhosh, was severely injured in his left arm, while another person, Mohammed Shafiullah, sustained minor injuries. The accused are Tabrez Pasha, Abrez, Salman Pasha, and a minor, all residents of Valmiki Nagar. According to the police, around 9.30 pm, a domestic dispute broke out between the families of Shafiullah and Tabrez. When Santhosh tried to intervene Tabrez allegedly attacked him before fleeing the scene. Shafiullah also sustained minor injuries. Santhosh is under treatment, the police said, adding that the three accused and the minor were arrested on Sunday.

Two drown in farm pond near Bengaluru

Bengaluru: In a tragic incident, a class 8 student and a 28-year-old man drowned in an agricultural pond near Thammenahalli, under the jurisdiction of Madanayakanahalli police station, on the outskirts of Bengaluru, on Sunday evening. The deceased have been identified as Dhyan Raj (14) and Prabhakar (28), both residents of Thammenahalli. According to police, Raj was playing cricket with his friends when the ball accidentally fell into the pond. He entered the water to retrieve it but slipped and began to drown. Prabhakar, who was sitting nearby at a tea stall, noticed the boy struggling and rushed to rescue him. However, both drowned in the attempt. Police said Raj did not know how to swim. Fire and emergency services personnel later arrived at the spot and recovered both bodies. They were sent for postmortem, and a case has been registered.

MISUSING IRCTC IDs

RPF busts Rly ticket racket, nine agents held

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@Bengaluru

THE Railway Protection Force (RPF) on Sunday busted a gang involved in illegally promising confirmed tickets to waitlisted passengers at Bengaluru City Railway Station. Nine staff members from various travel agencies were detained for charging double the fare to secure such tickets.

According to officials, the accused targeted vulnerable passengers waiting at reservation counters. They approached them with false assurances of confirmed tickets and lured them to nearby travel agency offices. Some suspects allegedly claimed access to PNR numbers and the ability to manipulate reservation statuses, raising suspicion through their frequent presence and interactions at the counters.

Acting on specific intelligence, the RPF's Crime Investigation Branch, along with the Divisional Station Team, launched an operation and detained the suspects. They were reportedly misusing Indian Railway Catering and Tourism Corporation (IRCTC) IDs to book tickets under the emergency quota, manipulating the system and exploiting passengers in urgent need of travel.

A formal complaint has been filed, and a detailed probe is underway. Officials have warned that misuse of IRCTC credentials will result in immediate suspension of accounts. The RPF has termed the activity a public nuisance. They have stated that action will be taken under relevant legal provisions to curb such malpractices.

GRAM PANCHAYAT EX-PREZ KILLED OVER PROPERTY DISPUTE

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @Bengaluru

A 45-year-old former gram panchayat president and Congress worker was brutally hacked to death by unidentified assailants over a property dispute. The crime occurred near a roadside eatery in Kanakapura, in the Sathanur police station limits of Bengaluru South district, on Saturday night, and two suspects were arrested on Sunday.

The deceased has been identified as Nanjesh, a resident of Honnaganidoddi village and former president of Achalu GP in Kanakapura taluk.

A police officer said that around 8.30 pm, Nanjesh was drinking with some friends near the eatery on Kanakapura Road, when 4-5 armed men barged in and attacked him with lethal weapons, before fleeing. Though bystanders rushed Nanjesh to hospital, he succumbed to his injuries at night. The police have registered a case of murder, and two of the accused were arrested on Sunday.

Preliminary investigation revealed that Nanjesh had been involved in a quarrel over a property dispute just four days prior to his murder. The accused are being questioned, and further investigations are under way to trace those at large.

NOTICE

Hereby We, **M/s Tradeworth Chits Private Limited** intimate to our subscribers to kindly note our change of address. We have shifted our office premises to

USHA THE EDIFICE, No. 2924, 2nd Floor, 14th Cross, K. R. Road, Banashankari 2nd Stage, Bengaluru-560070

Sd/- Foreman

PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that the original Sale Deeds in respect of the Schedule Property described below, are not traceable:
1. Sale Deed dated 15.04.2002, registered as document No. 295/2002-03 in the office of the Sub Registrar Kanakapura.
2. Sale Deed dated 15.04.2002, registered as document No. 296/ 2002-03 in the office of the Sub Registrar Kanakapura.
The current registered owner of the Schedule Property is Dr. N.K. BALAJI, s/o. Late N.V. Krishna Iyengar residing at No. 543, Garuthaman Park, Acharya Layout, Behind R.V. Road, Telephone Exchange Jayanagar 2nd Block, Bengaluru – 560 011 ("Owner").
The Owner has filed a complaint on 25.07.2025 in the KSP Portal vide Lost Report No. 1720705/2025 intimating the loss of the abovementioned Sale Deeds. Anybody transacting in respect of the Schedule Property with any person other than the Owner shall be doing so at their own risk and the Owner shall not be responsible for the same in any manner. Any person/s in possession of the aforesaid documents shall kindly deliver the same at the address given above.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

Survey No. 192/2 (Earlier 192), measuring 04 Acres, situated at Sheegekote Village, Kasaba Hobli, Kanakapura Taluk, Ramanagara District.

IN THE COURT OF DISTRICT PRINCIPAL FAMILY COURT AT UDUPI

O.S No. **4/2025**

Between:
G Sharada ------ Plaintiff
and
1. Radhakrishna S ------- Defendant

NOTICE

Sri Radha krishna S,
S/o Ramachandra Madkaikar,
C/o Venkatesh Tantri,
R/A 23/1, near Ganesh Temple,
Krishnanada Nagar, Malagava,
Bangalore - 560091

Please take notice that the above case is filed against you for declaratory decree the above case is posted 02.09.2025, you are hereby required to appear at 11.00 AM in the above court. You are hereby requested to appear in the above court either in person or through an advocate on the above date, failing which the case will be heard and decided in your absence treating you as ex-parte in the above matter.

Given under my hand and the seal of the court this 26th day of July 2025.

By the order of the Court
Sd/- Sheristedar, Family Court, Udupi.

Sd/- **Roopashri**
Advocate, Udupi
Advocate for the Plaintiff

BANGALORE WATER SUPPLY AND SEWERAGE BOARD

INVITATION FOR TENDER (Through KPP portal only)

BWSSB invites Tenders from eligible contractors for the following Works:

Office of the Engineer in Chief, 2nd Floor, Cauvery Bhavan, K. G. Road, Bangalore-09.

Sl. No.	Division	IFT Number	Amount Put to Tender / EMD Amount	Last Date & Time for submission of tender	Date & Time for opening of tender
1.	UFW-2	BWSSB/EE(UFW)-2/ PB/227/2025-26 Dt: 25.07.2025	Rs.95,23,850/- / Rs.1,90,500/-	11-08-2025 upto 4.00 p.m.	12-08-2025 after 4.05 p.m.
2.		BWSSB/EE(UFW)-2/ PB/228/2025-26 Dt: 25.07.2025	Rs.73,81,461/- / Rs.1,48,000/-		
3.		BWSSB/EE(UFW)-2/ PB/229/2025-26 Dt: 25.07.2025	Rs.95,45,027/- / Rs.1,90,900/-		

Sd/- Executive Engineer (UFW-2).

Office of the Chief Engineer (East), 6th Floor, Cauvery Bhavan, K. G. Road, Bangalore-09.

4.	South-East-2	BWSSB/EE(SE-2)/ PB/1060/2025-26 Dt: 24.07.2025	Rs.24,53,280/- / Rs.50,000/-	05-08-2025 upto 4.00 p.m.	07-08-2025 after 4.30 p.m.

Sd/- Executive Engineer (South-East-2).

The details regarding the tender and participation in the e-procurement process can be obtained by logging on to **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in** For further details contact the signed office during working hours.

DIPR/CP/AAPL/RO2031/25-26

EQUITAS SMALL FINANCE BANK LTD (FORMERLY KNOWN AS EQUITAS FINANCE LTD)
REGISTERED OFFICE- NO. 769, SPANCER PLAZA 4TH FLOOR, PHASE II, ANNA SALAI, CHENNAI, TN-600 002, PH-044- 42995000, 044-42995050

SALE NOTICE FOR SALE OF IMMOVABLE PROPERTY

APPENDIX IV-A [See proviso to Rule 8(6)] – Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable Properties

E-Auction Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable Assets under the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with proviso to Rule 8 (6) of the Security Interest(Enforcement) Rules, 2002. Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower (s), Mortgagor(s) and Guarantor (s) that the below described immovable property montaged/charged to the Secured Creditor, possession of which has been taken by the Authorized Officer of Equitas small finance Bank, Secured Creditor, will be sold on "As is where is", "As is what is", and "Whatever there is basis for recovery of dues in below mentioned accounts. The details of Borrower'(s) Mortgagor(s)/ Guarantor(s)/ Secured Assets Dues Reserve Price/E-Auction date & time and Bid Increase Amount are mentioned below

Name & Address of Borrowers/ Mortgagers/ Guarantors	Description of the Immovable Properties with known encumbrances, if any	Reserve Price / EMD Price / Bid Increase Price	Date & Time of E-Auction	Loan / Total Dues
MRS.NARAYANAMMAW/O.ANJANAPPA Bidalar Port Bidalar Banglore Rural Devanahalli,Devanahalli Karnataka - 562110 **MR.MANJUNATHA S/o. ANJINAPPA** #206 Devanahalli (TQ) Bidalur ,Banglore Rural Devanahalli Karnataka-562110	PROPERTY-1 Applicant : NARAYANAMMA, All that piece and Parcel of the immovable Property bearing No. 574/519, Situated at Bidaluru Village, Kasaba Hobli Devanahalli Taluk, Banglaore Rural Dist. Situated at within the Sub-Registration District of Devanahalli and Registration District of Bangalore Rural.	Rs.6,29,500 / Rs.62,950 / Rs.10,000	18-08-2025 From 11.00 AM to 12.30 PM	Loan Account No:- SEYLHNK0240455 Claim Amount Due Rs,305742/- as on 01-03-2023 with further interest from 02-03-2023 with monthly rest, charges and costs, etc., (Total Outstanding being Rs.643091/- as on 17-07-2025).
For details and queries on purchase and sale contact no- Sathish 9940286237 , Rakesh M V 9611500100				
MR.HARSHA B U BHAGIRATHI H M (Both are residing at NO 73 SY NO 178/1 H NO 101 1ST FLOOR SEWTHA, ENGINEERING WORKS BUILDING HOODI BASAVANNA NAGAR, Main Road, MAHADEVAPURA, BANGALORE SOUTH, KARNATAKA-560048)	All that piece and parcel of immovable Portion of Sourthern Property No.612/1, Site No.01, nd PID No. 150300401000120235, measuring East to West Northern side 56 feet, sourthern side 55 feet, North and Sourth eastern side 18 feet, western side 15 feet, in all totally 915.75 Sqr Feet Situated at Kannurahalli Village, Doddagattiganabbe Village panchayath, Kasaba Hobli, Hoskote Taluk, Bangalore Rural District. Situated at within the Sub-Registration District of Hoskote and Registration District of Bangalore	Rs.23,74,200 / Rs.2,37,420 / Rs.10,000	18-08-2025 From 11.00 AM to 12.30 PM	Loan Account No:- EMFKRPRM0035685/ 700004987402 Claim Amount Due Rs,1845593/- as on 03-10-2023 with further interest from 04-10-2023 with monthly rest, charges and costs, etc., (Total Outstanding being Rs.2461097/- as on 17-07-2025).
For details and queries on purchase and sale contact no - Sathish 9940286237, Rakesh M V 9611500100				

The intending purchaser/ bidder is required to submit amount of Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) by way of NEFT/RTGS/DD in the account of "Equitas Small Finance Bank Ltd" Account No- 200000807725 and IFSC code- ESFB0001001 Bhaaggyam Galleria New No. 18 , Bazzulla Road, T-Nagar, Chennai-600 117, drawn on any nationalized or scheduled bank on or before date: 14-08-2025

For details for terms & conditions of E-Auction sale please refer to the link provided in www. Equitasbank.com & https://www.bankeauctions.com.

Date - 28.07.2025, Place - Bangalore **Authorized officer, Equitas Small Finance Bank Ltd**

ICL Fincorp (Join ICL, Grow with us)

This is an advertisement issued pursuant to Regulation 30(1) of the SEBI (Issue and Listing of Non-Convertible Securities) Regulations, 2021 as amended, for information purpose only.

(Please scan the QR code to view the Prospectus)

ICL FINCORP LIMITED

ICL Fincorp Limited **("our Company" or "the Company" or "ICL")** was originally incorporated as 'Jawahar Finance Limited' at Chennai, a public limited company under the provisions of the Companies Act, 1956, pursuant to a certificate of incorporation dated December 9, 1991, issued by RoC. The name of our Company was changed to 'Irinjalakuda Credits & Leasing Company Limited' pursuant to a fresh certificate of incorporation dated April 26, 2004 issued by the RoC. Later, the name of our Company was changed to 'ICL Fincorp Limited' pursuant to a fresh certificate of incorporation dated May 8, 2016 issued by the RoC. Our Company holds a certificate of registration dated June 09, 2016 bearing registration number B-07.00437 issued by the Reserve Bank of India **("RBI")** to carry on the activities of a non-banking financial company without accepting public deposits under Section 45 IA of the Reserve Bank of India Act, 1934. For further details about our Company, see *"History and Certain Other Corporate Matters"* on page 108 of the Prospectus.

Registered Office: Plot No: C308, Door No: 66/40, 4th Avenue, Ashok Nagar, Chennai– 600 083, Tamil Nadu, India; **Tel:** +91 44 4208 2381, 2958 0014;
Corporate Office: ICL Fincorp Limited, Main Road, Irinjalakuda, Thrissur – 680121, Kerala, India; **Tel:** +91 480 2670400, 2828071, 2831305;
Corporate Identification Number: U65191TN1991PLC021815; **PAN:** AAACJ1806C; **E-mail:** info@iclfincorp.com; **Website:** www.iclfincorp.com;
Company Secretary and Compliance Officer: Visakh T.V.; **Email:** cs@iclfincorp.com; **Tel:** +91 480- 2670400, 2828071, 2831305;
Chief Financial Officer: Madhavankutty Thekkedath; **Email:** cfo@iclfincorp.com; **Tel:** +91 480- 2670400, 2828071, 2831305;

PUBLIC ISSUE OF UP TO 10,00,000 SECURED, REDEEMABLE, NON-CONVERTIBLE DEBENTURES (NCDs) OF FACE VALUE OF ₹1,000 EACH

NOTICE TO INVESTORS

This notice is with reference to the public issue of up to 10,00,000 secured, redeemable, non-convertible debentures of face value of ₹1,000 each, **("NCDs")** at par, for an amount up to ₹5,00,000 thousand **("Base Issue Size")** with an option to retain oversubscription of up to ₹5,00,000 thousand aggregating up to ₹10,00,000 thousand **(the "Issue")** by ICL Fincorp Limited **("Company")** in accordance with Securities and Exchange Board of India (Issue and Listing of Non-Convertible Securities) Regulations, 2021, as amended **(the "SEBI NCS Regulations")**, the applicable provisions of the Companies Act, 2013, as amended from time to time, and rules made thereunder the SEBI Circular no. SEBI/HO/DDHS/PoD1/P/CIR/2024/54 dated May 22, 2024, as amended **("SEBI Master Circular")**. The Company has filed prospectus dated July 25, 2025 **("Prospectus")** with the Registrar of Companies, Tamil Nadu at Chennai **("RoC"),** Securities and Exchange Board of India **("SEBI")** and BSE Limited **("BSE") (the "Stock Exchange").**

ISSUE PROGRAMME **ISSUE OPENS - JULY 31, 2025 (THURSDAY)** **ISSUE CLOSES - AUGUST 13, 2025 (WEDNESDAY)***

**The Issue shall remain open for subscription on Working Days from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. (Indian Standard Time), during the period indicated above, except that the Issue may close on such earlier date or extended date as may be decided by the Board of Directors of our Company or the Debenture Issue Committee, subject to relevant approvals (subject to a minimum period of two working days and a maximum period of ten working days from the date of opening of this Issue).*

In the event of an early closure or extension of the Issue, our Company shall ensure that notice of such early closure or extension is given to the prospective investors through an advertisement in a national daily newspaper and a regional daily newspaper in Tamil Nadu where the registered office is located, with wide circulation on or before such earlier date or extended date of closure. Application Forms for the Issue will be accepted only from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. (Indian Standard Time) or such extended time as may be permitted by the Stock Exchange, on Working Days during the Issue Period. On the Issue Closing Date, Application Forms will be accepted only between 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. and uploaded until 5:00 p.m. (Indian Standard Time) or such extended time as may be permitted by the Stock Exchange.

Allotment on "first come first serve basis" #
#As per the SEBI Master Circular, the allotment in this issue is required to be made on the basis of date of upload of each application into the electronic book of the Stock Exchange. For further details refer section titled "Issue Related Information" on page 225 of the Prospectus.

In accordance with the provision of and requirement under Section 30 of the Companies Act, 2013 read with Regulation 30(1) of the SEBI NCS Regulations, the Company has published statutory advertisement dated July 27, 2025 on their website at www.iclfincorp.com on which contains the disclosures as per Schedule V of the SEBI NCS Regulations ("Statutory Advertisement"). The Statutory Advertisement can be viewed through the QR code and web link given below:

Web link: https://iclfincorp.com/fileupload/keWa05GuoT

(please scan this QR code to view the detailed advertisement)

Capitalized terms not defined herein shall have the same meaning as assigned to such terms in the Prospectus.

All the potential investors are advised to please provide attention to the above mentioned update and take an informed decision accordingly.

For **ICL Fincorp Limited**
SD/-
K.G. Anilkumar
(Chairman & Managing Director) DIN: 00766739

Place : Irinjalakuda
Date : 27/07/2025

Former CM Basavaraj Bommai on Sunday accused the Congress of building a barrier to prevent water from the Mahadayi flowing into the Malaprabha, thereby obstructing interlinking canal work initiated during the BJP regime, and further stated that this was the only "contribution" the present ruling party made to the project

LET'S RAISE A STINK OVER MANUAL SCAVENGING

Dignity has no price. Cleanliness has no caste. The least we can do in an inequitable and unjust world is to ensure that no one has to carry our dirty pitcher. Despite the ban, manual scavenging still prevails in the state, raising a stink only when those condemned to carry it out gets asphyxiated. It is time governmental agencies embrace technology to end the dehumanising practice and scrub society's conscience clean

EXPRESS ILLUSTRATION

DIRTY PICTURE

(Insanitary latrines and manual scavengers identified; As per data from SKKS)

CATEGORY	INSANITARY LATRINES (2011)
Pit latrines	17,89,119
Night soil in open drain	61,802
Night soil removed by humans/animals	36,735
Total	**18,87,656**
Manual scavengers identified (2025)	7,483

REHABILITATION IS KEY

Under Section 13 of the Prohibition of Employment as Manual Scavengers and their Rehabilitation Act, 2013, the timely rehabilitation of identified manual scavengers is mandated, including:

- PHOTO ID CARDS
- ONE-TIME CASH ASSISTANCE (₹40,000)
- SKILL DEVELOPMENT
- HOUSING SUPPORT
- ALTERNATIVE EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

MOHAMMAD YACOOB & AKNISREE KARTHIK @ Bengaluru

THE recent death of a 31-year-old labourer, Puttaswamy, who developed breathing issues while cleaning a manhole at Akshaya Nagar in RMC Yard police limits in Bengaluru, has exposed the ineffective implementation of the ban on manual scavenging in the state. While Bengalureans write codes for all the world's ills, it is a shame that we cannot fix our societal flaws.

Systemic exclusion from identification of manual scavengers, lack of rehabilitation, institutional neglect, a non-functional 'statutory body' Karnataka State Safai Karmachari Commission, and lack of political will to implement the ban are some of the major reasons that experts point out for continuation of the inhuman practice.

Safai Karmachari Kavalu Samithi Karnataka (SKKS) is a community-based organisation advocating the rights and dignity of sanitation workers across Karnataka since 2010. SKKS state convener KB Obalesha laments that the manual scavenging practice, solely affecting the Dalit community, continues due to the state government's failure to fulfil its constitutional and statutory obligations.

Obalesha, who is on a mission to end manual scavenging and uplift the sanitation worker community, says, "The Government of India enacted the Employment of Manual Scavengers and Construction of Dry Latrines (Prohibition) Act, 1993, and the more comprehensive Prohibition of Employment as Manual Scavengers and their Rehabilitation Act, came up in 2013. Some of the key provisions of the 2013 Act include elimination of insanitary latrines and prohibition of their construction, ban on manual scavenging and hazardous cleaning practices, mandatory identification and rehabilitation of all manual scavengers, and prescribed safety equipment and procedures for sanitation workers.

Obalesha recalls that in Dr Balram Singh vs Union of India, the Supreme Court of India, through its judgment dated October 20, 2023, directed that in all sewer or septic tank deaths, a compensation of Rs 30 lakh must be paid by the State to the family of the deceased. "Seven manual scavenging deaths have occurred in Karnataka since the SC order in 2023, and the state government has paid no compensation to the families of the deceased. Partial compensation was paid in two cases by private entities," Obalesha says.

Real numbers higher: Bezwada

Magsaysay awardee and national convener, Safai Karmachari Andolan, **Bezwada Wilson** told TNIE that the safai karmachari numbers in Karnataka may be higher than the 7,000-plus reported, and the figure could be from only Bengaluru city. "In June alone, 10 deaths happened across India due to manual scavenging. In 2025, till date, 72 people have died. There are unreported cases and incidents in which FIRs have not been registered. Every year, there are 120 to 130 deaths. Our team has collected this data. I wonder why the Government of India is not able to stop this practice. The government does revision of voters' list every year and also doing a re-revision of voters in Bihar, but there no enumeration for manual scavengers," Wilson said. He termed the Union government's National Action for Mechanised Sanitary Ecosystem (Namaste) scheme anti-constitutional. He suggested that the government review its policies, start fresh enumeration of manual scavengers across India and come up with a special rehabilitation package.

Failure to identify manual scavengers

Obalesha argues that despite the 2013 Act's clear definition and obligation to identify manual scavengers, the state government has grossly underidentified them. "While Census 2011 recorded over 1.88 million insanitary latrines, only 7,483 manual scavengers have been identified to date. This indicates widespread exclusion," Obalesha alleges, adding that the data excludes non-household latrines and newer latrines built under the Swachh Bharat Mission.

He says the Karnataka government has informed the Supreme Court that no manual scavengers were identified in the 2024 survey, in direct contradiction to ground realities and the court's directives.

He argues that though the law mandates the timely rehabilitation of identified manual scavengers by providing them photo ID cards, one-time cash assistance of Rs 40,000, skill development, housing support and alternative employment opportunities, the Karnataka government has delayed the process. He says that while 2,142 manual scavengers were identified in 2018 and 2,413 in 2020, they were given cash assistance in 2024. With no further steps taken to provide livelihood training or support, many are forced to continue or return to manual scavenging.

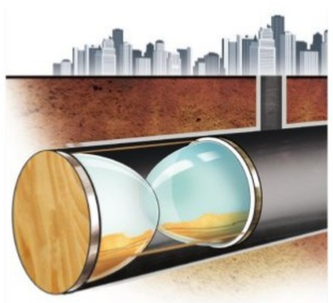
Institutions inactive

Establishment of monitoring bodies is mandatory. Here, the Karnataka State Safai Karmachari Commission is the designated body. However, since 2018, no members have been appointed, preventing the Commission from achieving quorum. The commission has remained non-functional, stripping workers of a vital platform for redressal and accountability, says Obalesha.

He has consistently worked for immediate compensation of Rs 30lakh to families of the deceased, a fresh, transparent survey for the identification of all manual scavengers, time-bound and comprehensive rehabilitation measures for all identified persons, and immediate reconstitution of the Karnataka State Safai Karmachari Commission with full quorum and powers.

Bangalore Water Supply and Sewerage Board (BWSSB) has a crucial role in implementing the ban. BWSSB chairman Ram Prasath Manohar says BWSSB has been strictly adhering to the rules. "We have deployed jetting machines across Bengaluru and have devoted staff to ensure that sewer lines and manholes are cleared. Gumboots and gloves are provided to sanitary workers. No one is allowed to manual scavenge and we have a strict monitoring mechanism."

(With inputs from Velayudham/Kolar-Chikkaballapur, Divya Cutinho/Mangaluru, Prakash Samaga/Udupi, Raghu Koppar/Gadag, Mallikarjun Hiremath/Dharwad, Kiran Balannanavar/Ballari, Karthik KK/Mysuru, Arpitha I/Shivamogga, Ramakrishna Badseshi/Kalaburagi and BR Udaya Kumar/Hassan)



HOW DISTS MANAGE BAN

How are districts in Karnataka faring in implementing the manual scavenging ban, identifying and rehabilitating scavengers and others? Team TNIE takes a look

MYSURU

Manual scavenging is a serious issue in Mysuru, despite bans and rehabilitation efforts. According to data from the district administration, there are a total of 1,381 manual scavengers, which highlights the persistence of the practice making the district the second on the chart after Bengaluru, in terms of identified manual scavengers.

Meanwhile, rehabilitation steps such as allocating two acres of land in Hebbal Colony for a community hall, issuing title deeds in Chilkunda village, and allocating funds and housing are under way, though many beneficiaries still await formal transfer of land and facilities.

However, members of the Mysuru District Arundathiyar Association, on condition of anonymity, said that despite these measures, manual scavenging persists. One of them attributed this to incomplete underground drainage coverage, weak enforcement of existing laws by officials and also hunger among labourers to get extra money for livelihood by doing these jobs.

BALLARI

In the past three years, no manual scavenging cases have been reported in undivided Ballari district. The City Municipal Corporation and local authorities have held several awareness programmes, and modern equipment used by the corporation limits manual scavenging. In 2022, when an incident was reported in Siruguppa, police took action against the two people who enlisted labourers for manual scavenging.

GADAG

Manual scavenging in Gadag district has come down significantly, but several incidents are still going unnoticed. The last manual scavenging incident in Gadag was on October 23, 2024. A private lodge owner near Gadag bus stand allowed some labourers to clean the toilet's outer portion without providing safety equipment. Some people opposed this incident, and a social activist and manual scavenging district coordinator complained to the State Safai Karmachari Commission.

Ramesh Kolur, Gadag district's Manual Scavenging Survey Committee coordinator, says, "We have been creating awareness about manual scavenging and such incidents are happening again and again but are going unnoticed. We are now aiming to make Gadag Zero Manual Scavenging cases district soon. We are also creating legal awareness about the Prohibition of Employment as Manual Scavengers and their Rehabilitation Act, 2013, and there is a need for public cooperation on this. We have also told municipal council workers that it is their right to ask for safety equipment."

UDUPI

No cases of manual scavenging have been reported in the past seven years, with the last incident reported on April 7, 2018. A labourer from the Dalit community had suffocated to death while cleaning a manhole in M-Kodi in Kasaba village, Kundapur taluk of Udupi district.

Udupi DC Swaroopa TK told TNIE there were no incidents of manual scavenging in the district in recent years. Verifying data, she said no case was registered by any authorities in this regard. Udupi CMC Commissioner Mahantesh Hangaragi told TNIE that no cases of manual scavenging were reported in the city limits.

DHARWAD

Dharwad relatively remains free of manual scavenging. Sucking machines and jets are being used to clean manholes. Hubballi Dharwad Municipal Corporation (HDMC) Commissioner Rudresh Gali said there are strict instructions, no manual scavenging is done under any condition, and that machines are deployed.

"We have instructed contractors and civic workers not to get into manual scavenging. We have held workshops for civic workers. In the past few years, we have not come across any such complaint. Even while using the machines, chemicals and gloves are a must, and this will be ensured by the contractor and health inspectors of the area," says Gali.

MANGALURU

SP Anand, president, Pourakarmikas Association, says that after repeated complaints to the authorities, there is no manual scavenging in the city in the last three years. "There were complaints from pourakarmikas that they were made to enter manholes whenever they were choked or overflowing. We complained to the Mangaluru City Corporation officials three years ago, and now, machinery is being used to do the works at present."

Anand, however, alleged that some private companies, including hotels, are using migrant workers for work, and urged the authorities to look into it.

SHIVAMOGGA

The district has not reported any manual scavenging incident in the recent past. Deputy Commissioner Gurudatta Hegade says the district administration is on high alert to prevent manual scavenging. Any manual scavenger who is found will be rehabilitated, he adds.

Shivamogga City Corporation Commissioner Mayanna Gowda says the last instance of manual scavenging was reported in 2013. The worker was rehabilitated and is now living in Channapatna.

KALABURAGI

Commissioner of Kalaburagi Mahanagara Palike Shinde Avinash Sanjeevan says they have been able to implement the ban effectively. Earlier, there were 52 manual scavengers in Kalaburagi city, and they have been rehabilitated to operate jetting-cum-sucking machines, jetting machines, desilting machines and power rodding equipment, says Sanjeevan.

Social activists, however, say there were a few labourers working in remote areas of the city, and their work has escaped the notice of officials.

KOLAR-CB PUR

Authorities claim to have contained the practice. Quarterly meetings with officials are held to keep a check on the practice, said Kolar Deputy Commissioner Dr MR Ravi and Chikkaballapur Deputy Commissioner PN Ravindra. Ravi said all municipality commissioners and chief officers, secretaries in gram panchayats have been told to follow government guidelines. Ravindra said no incident has been reported in any parts of Chikkaballapur.

HASSAN

Relatively free of the practice in recent years, with urban and rural local bodies spreading awareness about the ban on manual scavenging. Hassan City Corporation HCC, the city municipality of Arasikere and town municipalities of Channarayapatna, Sakleshpur and Holenarasipur have full-fledged sucking machines to lift and clear manholes. Private sucking machines are also operating in rural areas in the district.

Nagaraj Hettur, president of District Pourakarmikara Sangha, said the cleaning of drainage slush is similar to manual scavenging. Some workers tried to clear a manhole when residents forced them, and there was an incident of manual scavenging in a rural area, as residents offered cash and also forced them to do the job.

According to Krishnamurthy, commissioner of Hassan City Corporation, the corporation has warned residents not to force sanitation workers to clear soakpits or manhole. Labourers have been provided safety kits, including shoes and gloves, while clearing drains and lifting decomposed garbage mixed with UGD water, he added.

BJP to protest against fertiliser shortage today

ENS @ Bengaluru

BJP Raitha Morcha members will stage a protest against the state government across the state on Monday, over a shortage in fertiliser and also for distributing sub-standard seeds among farmers.

BJP state president BY Vijayendra said the protest will be organised across the state, except in Bengaluru. He added that neither the Congress government nor Chief Minister Siddaramaiah have any concern for farmers. The CM has not taken any pro-farmer decisions, Vijayendra said, pointing out that this year, the monsoon started early. The agriculture minister should have known about this. "Sowing won't happen at one time across the state. They should know what is the demand for urea. They should have some idea," he said, adding that Karnataka got 8.70 lakh MT of urea from the Centre, of which only 5.25 lakh MT is available in the market. "Where did 2.5 lakh MT of urea go," he questioned.

Further, Vijayendra said fertilisers in Karnataka are sold on the black market. Farmers are paying thrice the amount for urea. Also, their distress only increases when they are given sub-standard seeds, which is why they are protesting. "The agriculture minister should direct officials to identify agencies who supply sub-standard seeds and book them," he demanded.

SIT may start groundwork from today

DIVYA CUTINHO @ Mangaluru

THE Special Investigation Team (SIT) summoned the witness-complainant in the Dharmasthala mass burial case for questioning for the second consecutive day on Sunday. His statement was recorded at the SIT camp office at PWD Inspection Bungalow at Mallikatte, Kadri in Mangaluru.

The complainant arrived at the SIT office along with his legal counsel at around 10.30am and appeared before the SIT team. After recording his statements, he left the SIT office at 6.15pm. SIT chief DGP Pronab Mohanty also arrived at the SIT office around 11.45 am and joined the investigation. Later in the evening, Mohanty and DIG MN Anucheth visited the SIT office next to the Belthangady police station.

MASS BURIAL CASE

SIT chief DGP Pronab Mohanty and DIG MN Anucheth visited the SIT office in Belthangady on Sunday | EXPRESS

SIT sources said the whistleblower made a detailed statement on the bodies he claims to have buried and the SIT will proceed further based on his statement. "We will go ahead with the further procedure without any delay. We hope to visit Belthangady on Monday and start the groundwork. It's a long complaint and his questioning is expected to continue on Monday too. He has mentioned many spots where he said he has buried bodies," an officer associated with SIT told *TNIE*.

Once the questioning of the witness-complainant is completed, SIT sleuths are likely to visit the burial site where he claims to have exhumed skeletal remains of a victim and the spot mahazar is expected to be conducted at the alleged burial sites.

The complainant, said to be a former sanitation worker, had filed a complaint with the Dakshina Kannada superintendent of police and Dharmasthala police station, alleging that he was threatened into burying the bodies of victims of rape and murder in Dharmasthala village and surrounding areas. A case was registered at the Dharmasthala police station on July 4. A week later, he appeared before the Belthangady court and recorded his statement. He also produced the skeletal remains that he claimed to have exhumed himself. The remains were seized by the police in front of his advocates and panch witnesses.

EXPRESS READ

Kharge says Dhankhar always stood for BJP

VIJAYAPURA: On reports of Jadgeep Dhankhar being forced to resign as Vice-President, since he was reportedly openly talking against the BJP, Leader of the Opposition in Rajya Sabha and All India Congress Committee president Mallikarjun Kharge said he is unaware of the reasons for his resignation. "However, I can say clearly that Dhankhar always stood for the BJP and its government, and never for the people. During his tenure, he never allowed the Opposition to debate on issues of farmers, increasing religious intolerance, increasing atrocities on women and Dalits, or on the foreign policies of the BJP government. He never entertained us despite giving advance notice to allow debate on the issues in the Parliament," Kharge claimed.

ODISHA FLOODS IMPACT OVER 11K PEOPLE, 1,000 RELOCATED

Water level of Subarnarekha rising, six districts have been affected

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ Bhubaneswar

OVER 11,000 people of six districts of the state have been affected by floods due to heavy rains during the last several days triggered by a low pressure in the Bay of Bengal.

Six districts, Balasore, Mayurbhanj, Bhadrak, Jajpur, Sundargarh and Keonjhar have been affected by the floods. The situation is more serious in Mayurbhanj and Balasore districts from where over 1,000 people have been shifted to safer places in nine relief camps.

Revenue and disaster management minister Suresh Pujari told mediapersons that the flood situation is improving in the state as water level of Baitarani and Jalaka rivers have started receding. He said that except in two blocks in Balasore district, there is no problem anywhere. Damage assessment will be done after flood water recedes completely, he added.

However, water level of Subarnarekha has shown an increasing trend at Rajghat. Subarnarekha was flowing at 11.16 meter as against the danger mark of 10.36 meter at Rajghat and still rising. Official sources said that the water level of the river is expected to touch 11.4 meters subsequently. But at Jamsholaghat, the water level was 48.86 meters as against danger mark of 49.16 meter and has started receding.

At Akhuapada the river was flowing at 17.66 meters against the danger mark of 18.33 meter. The Jalaka river was flowing at 5.52 meter at Mathani as against the danger mark of 6.5 meter.

Temple gets submerged as the Tunga river flows above the danger mark due to heavy rainfall, at Sringeri, near Chikkamagaluru, Karnataka, Sunday | PTI

Ukkadagatri town flooded; boat services shut in Kodagu

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ Davanagere

FOLLOWING heavy rain in Malnad region, water has been released from Tungabhadra dam, leading to flooding in the temple town of Ukkadagatri situated on the banks of the Tungabhadra river, in Harihar.

Chikkamagaluru and Shivamogga districts have been witnessing heavy rainfall for the past many days and the Tungabhadra river is flowing near the danger mark. A huge amount of water has been released into the river from Tunga and Bhadra dams. Due to this, the water level of the river in Harihar taluk of Davangere is increasing day-by-day and now Ukkadagatri temple in Harihar is under water.

Many shops near the bathing ghat of Karibasaveshwara temple in Ukkadagatri were also flooded. As the river water level has increased, Ganesha temple on the riverbank has been submerged. Amid all these rain troubles, the paddy transplantation work is picking up pace and farmers are preparing their lands for transplanting work and this time many farmers are using the mechanical device to transplant as there is a severe shortage of farm labourers in the district.

Meanwhile, as heavy rains lash Wayanad district in neighbouring Kerala state and Kodagu, the irrigation department has discharged over one lakh cusecs of water from both the Kabini and Krishnaraja Sagara reservoirs.

Christian groups slam nuns' arrest in Ch'garh

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @Kochi

THE arrest of two Malayali nuns in Chhattisgarh on Friday has triggered outrage, with Christian organisations demanding immediate and decisive action to curb religious fanaticism.

Preetha Mary and Vandana Francis from the Assisi Sisters of Mary Immaculate under the Syro-Malabar Church, who were accompanying three girls, were arrested by the Chhattisgarh police at Durg railway station and charged with forced religious conversion and human trafficking.

The Catholic Bishops' Conference of India (CBCI) said the nuns were arrested despite possessing written consent letters from the parents of the girls, who are over 18 years of age. The CBCI urged the two state governments to ensure the safety and protection of all women, especially those in religious service, and sought the urgent intervention of the Union government to prevent such incidents.

The Kerala Catholic Bishops' Council's (KCBC) Social Harmony and Vigilance Commission said the police's action was prompted by baseless allegations and trafficking made by members of Bajrang Dal.

"This distressing incident is part of a broader and deeply troubling pattern of increasing hostility towards Christians and missionary personnel across various Indian states," it said.

It termed the incident part of a disturbing pattern of harassment, false accusations and fabricated cases targeting religious women in recent months. The KCBC commission urged the PM Narendra Modi, HM Amit Shah and Union Minority Affairs Minister Kiren Rijiju to act swiftly and decisively.

EC claims clean chit, but activists raise questions

BANSY KALAPPA @ Bengaluru

IN an interesting twist that could reshape the narrative around electoral integrity, the chief electoral officer of the Election Commission of India has come out with a detailed clarification, claiming that all recognised political parties, including Congress, were handed over draft and final electoral rolls during the special summary revision, ahead of 2024 Lok Sabha.

In all, 9,17,928 claims and objections were received during the process, the CEO revealed, asserting that no appeals were filed against any additions or deletions. But not everyone is buying the narrative. Commonwealth Human Rights Initiative Director Venkatesh Nayak calls it "a half circle of transparency". Welcoming the rare disclosure of district-wise data, Nayak demanded that the missing pieces — how many claims and objections were accepted or rejected — be released immediately. "It's baffling that not a single appeal was filed. Are we to believe that nearly a million electoral modifications were flawless," he wondered.

Nayak hinted at a possible "cover-up", stating that under current regulations, most original records — applications, claims and objections — would have already been destroyed at the district level because of the one-year retention rule. "What is this data based on? Can it even be verified," he asked.

EXPRESS READ

Fertility clinic sold babies as surrogates; 8 held

Hyderabad: A fertility clinic from Hyderabad orchestrated a cruel deception: buying babies from vulnerable women and passing them off as biological children born through surrogacy. Eight people have been arrested, exposing a multi-city baby-selling operation. The racket, run by Universal Srushti Fertility Centre, unravelled when a couple who paid Rs 35 lakh discovered through a DNA test that the baby they were given wasn't theirs. The Gopalapuram police busted the illegal surrogacy and trafficking ring, which operated under the guise of IVF services. The rescued infant has been placed in state care. The complainant couple from Rajasthan approached the Gopalapuram clinic, in August 2024. ENS

DIASPORA CHEERS

The Telugu community welcomes Andhra Pradesh CM Chandrababu Naidu in Singapore, on Sunday. Indian High Commissioner Shilpak Ambule outlined Singapore's advancements in healthcare, green hydrogen and various sectors, and informed that Singapore is keen to explore investment opportunities in AP | EXPRESS

M'luru girl all set for world record in Bharatanatyam

ENS @ Mangaluru

Remona Evette Pereira, a final year BA student of St Aloysius in Mangaluru, is set to enter the Golden Book of World Records through a continuous seven-day Bharatanatyam performance.

Remona began her record-breaking performance on July 21 at her college and is scheduled to conclude her performance at 1 pm on Monday, attempting to set a record of 170 hours. Sudhir Jagpath, a 16-year-old boy holds the current record, having performed Bharatanatyam for 127 hours. As part of her dance marathon, Remona is performing continuously with a of 15 minutes every three hours. By Sunday, she had completed 150 hours and the entire performance is being recorded. Remona is also a recipient of the Pradhan Mantri Rashtriya Bal Puraskar in 2022.

NOTICE INVITING e-TENDER

THIRUVANANTHAPURAM TECHNOPARK HARMONY@WORK

kerala it EMPOWERING THE FUTURE

Tender No: ETPK/TC/227/2025-26

e-Tender ID: 2025_ETPK_764002_1

The last date of bid submission for the work of **'Construction of an IT Office building under 'QUAD' project in Technopark Phase IV (Technocity) campus, Trivandrum'** has been extended upto 04.08.2025, 5:00 PM

For further details, please visit **https://etenders.kerala.gov.in**

Date: 28/07/2025 **Chief Executive Officer**
Trivandrum D3/556/2025 **Technopark**

CITY UNION BANK LIMITED
Credit Recovery and Management Department
Administrative Office: No.24-B, Gandhi Nagar, Kumbakonam - 612001. **E-Mail id:** crmd@cityunionbank.in, **Phone:** 0435-2432322, **Fax:** 0435-2431746

RE-TENDER-CUM-AUCTION SALE NOTICE UNDER SARFAESI ACT 2002

The following property/ies mortgaged to **City Union Bank Limited** will be sold in Re-Tender-cum-Public Auction by the Authorised Officer of the Bank, under Rule 8 (6) & 9 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002, under the SARFAESI Act, 2002, for recovery of a sum of **Rs.16,33,235/- (Rupees Sixteen Lakh Thirty Three Thousand Two Hundred and Thirty Five only)** as on **18-06-2025** together with further interest to be charged from **19-06-2025** onwards and other expenses, any other dues to the Bank by the borrowers / guarantors **No.1) M/s. A M T Silk, No.226/433/45/2, Ward No.23, Tippu Nagar, Ramanagara - 562159. No.2) Mr. Amjad Khan, S/o. Ayub Khan, No.43, 3rd Cross, Tippu Nagar, Mohalla, Near Bismillah Circle, Ramanagara - 571511. No.3) Mrs. Kouser Banu, W/o. Amjad Khan, No.43, 3rd Cross, Tippu Nagar, Mohalla, Near Bismillah Circle, Ramanagara - 571511. No.4) Mrs. Shameen Taj, W/o. Ayub Khan, No.43, 3rd Cross, Tippu Nagar, Mohalla, Near Bismillah Circle, Ramanagara - 571511. Also at, Mrs. Shameen Taj, W/o. Ayub Khan, No.164/B, 3rd Cross, Tippu Nagar, Bismillah Circle, Ramanagara - 562159.**

Immovable Property Mortgaged to our Bank
(Property Owned by Mrs. Shameen Taj, W/o. Ayub Khan)

All that piece and parcel of Property bearing Municipal Khata No.226/433/45/2 Measuring : East to West (40 Feet) and North to South (60 Feet) Situated at Kothipura Amanikere Ramanagara Town, Ramanagara District. Total extent of Plot 2,400 sq.ft. with Residential Building Constructed therein. Bounded on : East by : House of Sharif Saheb, West by : House of Khaleemulla, North by : Private Property, South by : Road.

Reserve Price : Rs.20,00,000/-
(Rupees Twenty Lakh only)

RE-AUCTION DETAILS

Date of Re-Tender-cum-Auction Sale	Venue
18-08-2025	City Union Bank Limited, Bengaluru-Ramanagara Branch, B.M.Road, 316, I Stage, Near Bus Stand, Bengaluru-Mysore Main Road, Ramanagara, Bengaluru Rural - 571511. Telephone No.080-27276688, Cell Nos.9379511195, 8925964904.

Terms and Conditions of Re-Tender-cum-Auction Sale :

(1) The intending bidders should be present in person for the auction and participate personally and give a declaration in writing to the effect that he/she is bidding for himself/herself. **(2)** The intending bidders may obtain the Tender Forms from **The Manager, City Union Bank Limited, Bengaluru-Ramanagara Branch, B.M.Road, 316, I Stage, Near Bus Stand, Bengaluru - Mysore Main Road, Ramanagara, Bengaluru Rural - 571511. (3)** The intending bidders should submit their bids only in the Tender Form prescribed in sealed envelopes addressed to **The Authorised Officer, City Union Bank Ltd.,** together with a Pay Order / Demand Draft for an EMD of **10%** of the Reserve Price, drawn in favour of **"City Union Bank Ltd.", on or before 12.00 Noon** on the date of Tender-cum-Auction Sale hereby notified. **(4)** For inspection of the property and other particulars, the intending purchaser may contact **Telephone No.080-27276688, Cell Nos.9379511195, 8925964904. (5)** The property/ ies are sold on "As-is-where-is", "As-is-what-is" and "whatever-there is" basis. **(6)** The sealed tenders will be opened in the presence of the intending bidders at **01.00 p.m.** on the date of Tender-cum-Auction Sale hereby notified. Though in general the sale will be by way of closed tenders, the Authorised Officer may, at his sole discretion, conduct an Open Auction among the interested bidders who desire to quote a bid higher than the one received in the closed tender process, and in such an event, the sale shall be conferred on the person making highest bid. The sale, however, is subject to confirmation of City Union Bank Limited. **(7)** The successful bidder shall have to pay **25% (inclusive of EMD paid)** of the Sale amount **immediately** on completion of sale and the balance amount of **75%** within **15 days** from the date of confirmation of sale, failing which the initial deposit of **25%** shall be forfeited. **(8)** The Sale Certificate will be issued by the Authorised Officer in favour of the successful purchaser only after receipt of the entire sale consideration within the time limit stipulated herein. **(9)** The successful purchaser shall bear the charges/fees payable for conveyance, such as stamp duty, registration fee etc., as applicable under law. **(10)** The successful bidder should pay the statutory dues (lawful house tax, electricity charges and other dues), TDS, GST if any, due to Government, Government Undertaking and local bodies. **(11)** The Authorised Officer shall have all the powers to accept or reject the bids or postpone or cancel the sale without assigning any reason whatsoever.

Place : Kumbakonam, Date : 25-07-2025 **Authorised Officer**

Regd. Office: 149, T.S.R. (Big) Street, Kumbakonam, Thanjavur District, Tamil Nadu - 612001, **CIN -** L65110TN1904PLC001287, **Telephone No.**0435-2402322, **Fax:** 0435-2431746, **Website:** www.cityunionbank.com

CITY UNION BANK LIMITED
Credit Recovery and Management Department
Administrative Office : No. 24-B, Gandhi Nagar, Kumbakonam - 612 001. **E-Mail id :** crmd@cityunionbank.in, **Ph :** 0435-2432322, **Fax :** 0435-2431746

POSSESSION NOTICE (Immovable Property)

Whereas, the undersigned being the Authorised Officer of **City Union Bank Ltd.,** having its **Administrative Office** at **No.24-B, Gandhi Nagar, Kumbakonam - 612001** and one of the Branch Offices at **B.M.Road, 316, I Stage, Near Bus Stand, Bengaluru-Mysore Main Road, Ramanagara, Bengaluru Rural - 571511, Bengaluru-Ramanagara Branch** under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 and in exercise of the powers conferred under Section 13(2) & (12) read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 issued a Demand Notice Dated **02-05-2025** calling upon the borrowers **No.1) M/s. Shahiya Timbers, No.2311, Mothi Nagar, Main Road, 2nd Railway Gate, Ramanagara - 562159. No.2) Mr. Touseef Ulla Khan, S/o. Sami Ulla Khan, No.2966, 4th Ward, Masjid Lane, Mothi Nagar, Ramanagara - 562159. No.3) Mrs. Sheemaz, W/o. Touseef Ulla Khan, No.2966, 4th Ward, Masjid Lane, Mothi Nagar, Ramanagara - 562159** to repay the amount mentioned in the Notice being **Rs.5,83,011/- (Rupees Five Lakh Eighty Three Thousand and Eleven only)** within **60 days** from the date of the said Notice with subsequent interest thereon from **25-04-2025** with monthly rests.

The borrowers above named having failed to repay the amount despite the receipt of the above referred statutory notice, NOTICE is hereby given to the borrowers above named and the public in general that the undersigned has taken possession of the Properties described herein below in exercise of the powers conferred on him under Section 13(4) of the said Act read with Rule 8 of the said Rules on this 24th day of July 2025.

The borrowers above named in particular and the public in general are hereby cautioned not to deal with the properties and any dealings with the properties will be subject to the charge of City Union Bank Ltd. for an amount of **Rs.6,00,034/- (Rupees Six Lakh and Thirty Four only)** and interest thereon from **05-07-2025** till the repayment of entire dues.

The borrowers' attention is invited to provisions of Sub-section (8) of Section 13 of the Act, in respect of time available, to redeem the secured assets.

Immovable Property Mortgaged to our Bank

Property - 1 : (Property Owned by Mr. Touseef Ulla Khan, S/o. Sami Ulla Khan)

All that piece and Parcel of the Residential Property bearing Old Municipal Khatha No.254/238/2015, New Municipal Khatha No.238/2015, Present Property No.16-2-132-3, Old Property No.3015, Assessment No.238/3015. Measuring : East to West 24 feet, North to South 50 feet, Totally measuring 1,200 Sq.ft. situated at Ward No.16, Balageri (Nerale Keri), Ramanagara. Bounded on : East by : House of Asmath Khan, West by : Property of Pushpamma, North by : Property of Wajid Khan, South by : Municipal Road.

Place : Ramanagara, Date : 24-07-2025 **Authorised Officer**

Regd. Office : 149, T.S.R. (Big) Street, Kumbakonam, Thanjavur District, Tamil Nadu - 612 001, **CIN -** L65110TN1904PLC001287, **Telephone No.** 0435-2402322, **Fax :** 0435-2431746, **Website :** www.cityunionbank.com

ORIX LEASING & FINANCIAL SERVICES INDIA LIMITED
(formerly known as OAIS Auto Financial Services Limited)
(A Subsidiary of ORIX Auto Infrastructure Services Limited)
Regd. Office : Plot No. 94, Marol Co-operative Industrial Estate, Andheri-Kurla Road, Andheri (E), Mumbai - 400 059
Tel.: + 91 22 2859 5093 / 6707 0100 | Fax: +91 22 2852 8549
Email: info@orixindia.com | www.orixindia.com | CIN: U74900MH2006PLC163937

POSSESSION NOTICE
[RULE 8(1) SECURITY INTEREST (ENFORECEMENT) RULES, 2002]

Whereas, the undersigned being the authorised officer of **ORIX Leasing & Financial Services India Limited,** under the Securitization And Reconstruction Of Financial Assets And Enforcement Of Security Interest Act, 2002, and in exercise of powers conferred by section 13(12) of the said act read with rule 3 of THE SECURITY INTEREST (ENFORCEMENT) RULES, 2002 issued a notice dated **17.05.2025** calling upon **Shilpa Sampath Kumar, Deepak MG , M/S Jai Bharath Wines & M/S Saavis Designer Boutique** as borrower/ co-borrowers/ mortgagers to repay the amount mentioned in the notice being **INR 3,40,73,348.08/- (Rupees Three Crore Fifty Lakh Seventy Three Thousand Three Hundred Eighty Four and Eight Paise Only)** within 60 days of the receipt of the said notice together with further interest and other charges from the date of demand notice till the date of payment/realization.

1.The borrowers and co-borrowers despite being served with the said notice and having failed to repay the entire notice amount together with further interest and other charges.

2.In view of the above, notice is hereby given to the borrowers and public in general that the undersigned has taken **Symbolic Possession** of the property described here in under in exercise of powers conferred on him/her under section 13(4) of the said act read with rule 8 of the said rules on **25.07.2025.**

3.The borrowers and co-borrowers in particular and public in general is hereby cautioned not to deal with the property and any dealing in the property would be subject to the charge of **ORIX Leasing and Financial Services India Limited** of **INR 3,40,73,348.08/- (Rupees Three Crore Fifty Lakh Seventy Three Thousand Three Hundred Eighty Four and Eight Paise Only)** together with further interest and other charges from the date of demand notice till the date of payment/ realization.

DESCRIPTION OF THE PROPERTY

All That Piece And Parcel Of Property Bearing BBMP Khatha No. 332, Old Site No. 332, Pid No. 19-4-332, Measuring East To West 71 Feet North To South 40 Feet, Situated At Iii Stage, West Of Chord Road, Bangalore, Comprising Of Ground And First Floor Building, And Bounded On : **East By: -** 30 Feet Road; **West By: -** Property Bearing Site No. 333; **North By: -** 30 Feet Road; **South By: -** Property Bearing Site No. 331

Loan Account No: LN0000000006590 **Yours Faithfully,**
Date : 25-07-2025 **Authorised Officer**
Place : Bangalore **ORIX Leasing & Financial Services India Limited**

CITY UNION BANK LIMITED
Credit Recovery and Management Department
Administrative Office : No. 24-B, Gandhi Nagar, Kumbakonam - 612 001. **E-Mail id :** crmd@cityunionbank.in, **Ph :** 0435-2432322, **Fax :** 0435-2431746

POSSESSION NOTICE (Immovable Property)

Whereas, the undersigned being the Authorised Officer of **City Union Bank Ltd.,** having its **Administrative Office** at **No.24-B, Gandhi Nagar, Kumbakonam - 612001** and one of the Branch Offices at **Site No.61, 3rd Cross, Ashwath Nagar, Kalamandir Service Road, Marathahalli, Bangalore - 560037, Bengaluru Marathahalli Branch** under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 and in exercise of the powers conferred under Section 13(2) & (12) read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 issued a Demand Notice Dated **25-04-2025** followed by Paper Publication Date **22-05-2025** calling upon the borrowers **No.1) Mr. Syed Shabeer, S/o. Syed Ashwak, No.10, Medimallasandra, Hoskote, Bangalore - 562114. No.2) Mr. Syed Mubarak, S/o. Syed Ashwak, No.10, Medimallasandra, Hoskote, Bangalore - 562114. No.3) Mrs. Jabeen Taj, W/o. Syed Ashwak, No.10, Medimallasandra, Hoskote, Bangalore - 562114.** to repay the amount mentioned in the Notice being **Rs.9,32,252/- (Rupees Nine Lakh Thirty Two Thousand Two Hundred and Fifty Two only)** within **60 days** from the date of the said Notice with subsequent interest thereon from **23-04-2025** with monthly rests.

The borrowers above named having failed to repay the amount despite the receipt of the above referred statutory notice, NOTICE is hereby given to the borrowers above named and the public in general that the undersigned has taken possession of the Properties described herein below in exercise of the powers conferred on him under Section 13(4) of the said Act read with Rule 8 of the said Rules on this 24th day of July 2025.

The borrowers above named in particular and the public in general are hereby cautioned not to deal with the properties and any dealings with the properties will be subject to the charge of City Union Bank Ltd. for an amount of **Rs.8,52,334/- (Rupees Eight Lakh Fifty Two Thousand Three Hundred and Thirty Four only)** and interest thereon from **19-07-2025** till the repayment of entire dues.

The borrowers' attention is invited to provisions of Sub-section (8) of Section 13 of the Act, in respect of time available, to redeem the secured assets.

Immovable Property Mortgaged to our Bank

Schedule - A : (Property Owned by Mr. Syed Shabeer, S/o. Syed Ashwak)

All that Piece and Parcel of Residential Building in Site bearing Janjar No. & SI No.578 Nirdharana No. & Property No.317/2 bearing Panchayath Khatha No.578/317/2. Measuring : East to West - 25 ft. and North to South - 23 ft. Situated at Medimallasandra Village, Anugondanahalli Hobli, Hoskote Taluk, Bangalore Rural District Which Comes under Gramatana Limit of Medimallasandra Village with building thereon and Bounded on the : East by : Government Road, West by : Property belonging to Chotusabi, North by : Property belonging to Syed, South by : Property belonging to Rafiq.

Place : Bangalore, Date : 24-07-2025 **Authorised Officer**

Regd. Office : 149, T.S.R. (Big) Street, Kumbakonam, Thanjavur District, Tamil Nadu - 612 001, **CIN -** L65110TN1904PLC001287, **Telephone No.** 0435-2402322, **Fax :** 0435-2431746, **Website :** www.cityunionbank.com

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BEFORE THE KARNATAKA STATE CONSUMER DISPUTES REDRESSAL COMMISSION, BASAVA BHAVAN, HIGH GROUNDS, BANGALORE - 560 001.
Under the Consumer Protection Act, 1986
APPEAL No. 2332/2024
IN
COMPLAINT No. 179/2023

The Administrator, St. Martha's Hospital and another ...Appellants
Mrs. Varalakshmi ...Respondent

To, **Mrs. Varalakshmi,** Wife of Dandapani, aged about 27 years, residing at No.42, 17th Cross, J.C. Nagar, Bangalore-560 079.

APPEAL NOTICE UNDER SECTION 41 OF THE AMENDED C.P.A. 2019 TO THE RESPONDENT FOR HEARING THE APPEAL IN DAILY ENGLISH NEWS PAPER ; INDIAN EXPRESS; BANGALORE EDITION

Whereas, the Appellants have filed the above appeal against the orders passed by the 4th Addl. District Commission, Bangalore in Complaint No.179/2023 Dated: 29/06/2024. You are hereby notify to appear before this Commission in person or through a pleader or person authorized to answer all the material facts relating to the Appeal **on 9th September, 2025 at 10.30 A.M.**

Take notice that in case of default of your appearance on the day mentioned above Appeal will be heard and determined in your absence.

Given under the hand and seal of this Commission on this 22nd July, 2025.

By order of the Commission,
Asst. Registrar-Cum-Asst. Admin Officer
K.S.C.D.R.C., Bangalore - 560001.

QuoteExpress **THE ONLY CONSTANT IN THE TECHNOLOGY INDUSTRY IS CHANGE** › MITCHELL KAPOR

JANA SMALL FINANCE BANK (A Scheduled Commercial Bank) | **Registered Office:** The Fairway, Ground & First Floor, Survey No.10/1, 11/2 &12/2B, Off Domlur, Koramangala Inner Ring Road, Next to EGL Business Park, Challaghatta, Bangalore-560071.

E-AUCTION NOTICE

PUBLIC NOTICE FOR SALE THROUGH E-AUCTION UNDER THE SECURITISATION AND RECONSTRUCTION OF FINANCIAL ASSETS AND ENFORCEMENT OF SECURITY INTEREST ACT (SARFAESI ACT) 2002, READ WITH PROVISO RULE 8(6) & 9 OF SECURITY INTEREST (ENFORCEMENT) RULES 2002.

The undersigned as authorised officer of **Jana Small Finance Bank Limited** has **taken possession** of the following property in exercise of powers conferred under section 13(4) of the SARFAESI ACT. The Borrower in particular and public at large are informed that online auction (e-auction)of the mortgage property in the below mentioned account for realisation of dues of the Bank will be held on **"AS IS WHERE IS BASIS "** and **"AS IS WHAT IS BASIS"** on the date as prescribed as here under.

Sr. No.	Loan Account Number	Name of Original Borrower/ Co-Borrower/ Guarantor	Date of 13-2 Notice	Date of Possession	Present Outstanding balance as on 24.07.2025	Date & Time of Inspection of the property	Reserve Price in INR	Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) in INR	Date and Time of E-Auction	Last Date Time & Place for submission of Bid
1	47059440000400	1) Mr. Yogesh S, 2) Mr. Siddaraju	16.12.2024	12.07.2025	Rs.4,70,129.72 (Rupees Four Lakh SeventyThousand One Hundred Twenty Nine and Seventy Two Paisa Only)	14.08.2025 Time: 09:30 AM to 05:00 PM	Rs.8,10,000/- (Rupees Eight Lakh Ten Thousand Only)	Rs.81,000/- (Rupees Eighty One Thousand Only)	29.08.2025 @ 02:00 PM	28.08.2025, Till 5.00 PM Jana Small Finance Bank Ltd., The Fairway, Ground & First Floor, Survey No.10/1, 11/2 & 12/2B, Off Domlur, Koramangla Inner Ring Road, Next to EGL Business Park, Challaghatta, Bangalore-560071
	Details of Secured Assets: All that piece and parcel of the property bearing Khaneshumari No.171/46, measuring East to West 40 Feet North to South 30 Feet, situated at Thoreddoddi Village, Ittamadu Dhakale, Bidadi Hobli, Ramanagara Taluk, Ramanagara District and **Bounded on: East by:** Land belongs to Ramaiah, **West by:** Road, **North by:** Property belongs to Siddaraju, **South by:** Property belongs to Chandra.									
2	45350430000022	1) Mrs. Rathnamma, 2) Mr. Venkatesh	05.12.2024	02.07.2025	Rs.5,55,180.67 (Rupees Five Lakh Fifty Five Thousand One Hundred Eighty and Sixty Seven Paisa Only)	14.08.2025 Time: 09:30 AM to 05:00 PM	Rs.7,95,000/- (Rupees Seven Lakh Ninety Five Thousand Only)	Rs.,79,500/- (Rupees Seventy Nine Thousand Five Hundred Only)	29.08.2025 @ 02:00 PM	28.08.2025, Till 5.00 PM Jana Small Finance Bank Ltd., The Fairway, Ground & First Floor, Survey No.10/1, 11/2 & 12/2B, Off Domlur, Koramangla Inner Ring Road, Next to EGL Business Park, Challaghatta, Bangalore-560071
	Details of Secured Assets: All that piece and parcel of for Khaneshumari No.295/346/04, Measuring East to West 6.402 meter and North to South 10.670 meters situated at Uyyamballi Village, Uyyamballi Gram Panchayath, Uyyamballi Hobli, Kanakapura Taluk, Ramanagara District and **Bounded on: East by:** House belongs to Shivamallaiah, **West by:** House belongs to Sannamma, **North by:** Road, **South by:** House belongs to Venkatashetty.									

The properties are being held on **"AS IS WHERE IS BASIS"** & **"AS IS WHAT IS BASIS"** and the E-Auction will be conducted **'On Line'.** The auction will be conducted through the Bank's approved service provider **M/s. 4 Closure** at the web portal **https://bankauctions.in** & **www.foreclosureindia.com.** For more information and For details, help, procedure and online training on e-auction, prospective bidders may contact **M/s. 4 Closure; Contact Mr. M Srinivasulru Contact Number: 8142000809. Email id: info@bankauctions.in/ srinivas@bankauctions.in.**

For further details on terms and conditions to take part in e-auction proceedings and any for any query relating to property please contact **Jana Small Finance Bank authorized officers Mr. Ranjan Naik (Mob. No.6362951653).** To the best of knowledge and information of the Authorised Officer, there are no encumbrances on the properties. However the intending bidders should make their own independent inquiries regarding the encumbrances, title of property put on prior to submitting their bid. No conditional bid will be accepted. This is also a notice to the above named Borrowers/ Guarantor's/ Mortgagors about e-auction scheduled for the mortgaged properties. The Borrower/ Guarantor/ Mortgagor are hereby notified to pay the sum as mentioned above along with up to date interest and ancillary expenses before the date of auction, failing which the property will be sold and balance dues if any will be recovered with interest and cost.

Date: 28.07.2025, Place: Bangalore Rural **Sd/- Authorized Officer, Jana Small Finance Bank Limited**

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EDITORIAL

Speak when you are angry, and you will make the best speech you will ever regret — Ambrose Bierce

INDIAN EXPRESS IS NOT AN INDUSTRY. IT IS A MISSION.
— Ramnath Goenka

TARIFFS LOOM, TALKS LINGER AS INDIA HOLDS GROUND ON U.S. DEAL

THE recent India-UK trade agreement has shifted focus back to another lingering conversation — the trade deal between India and the United States. With August 1 approaching fast, and with it the threat of new US tariffs, the spotlight is back on whether the two sides can finally close a deal. President Donald Trump has called the deal "very near". Commerce Minister Piyush Goyal says negotiations are making "fantastic" progress. However, market watchers firmly believe that a mini or an interim trade deal is unlikely in the next few days.

In contrast, Trump has signed pacts with more than a handful of countries, including Japan, Vietnam, Indonesia, and the Philippines, in the past few days, besides dispatching tariff letters to over 20 more with effective rates from August. However, India isn't in a hurry, and as Goyal mentioned, negotiations are rarely successful when constrained by timelines.

The delay in the India-US deal comes down to real differences. One is America's push for deeper access into India's farming and dairy sectors. India isn't ready to make those concessions, knowing their local impact could be serious. On the other hand, India has asked the US to ease duties on steel, aluminium and car exports — a request that remains on the table.

Moreover, India's role in global groups like BRICS, and its ongoing energy ties with Russia, may be unsettling for the US. It is threatening 500 percent tariffs on imports from Russia, particularly oil. There's also the thorny issue of data localisation rules, which the US wants India to relax, besides seeking superior digital market access for American tech firms. India is taking a cautious view.

In the absence of an interim deal, it's unclear whether India will face higher tariffs from August or if Trump will extend the deadline once more. The recent American deals demonstrate how the US exerts pressure on countries to roll out the red carpet for American products or commit significant investments in the US in exchange for lower duties. India isn't ready to cede ground and is clear about protecting labour-sensitive sectors, such as agriculture and textiles. Given India's significant trade deficit with the US, chances are that the US may ultimately gain sector-specific advantages; however, on balance, the proposed deal must ensure equity for both sides.

FRANCE TAKES STAND AS GAZA FACES STARVATION

EMMANUEL Macron has set a pigeon among hawks by announcing his decision to formally recognise Palestine at the UN General Assembly in September. Nearly three-fourths of the UN's 193 members already recognise the state embattled and occupied by Israel. India was among the first to do so in 1988. France's move will leave the US and the UK as the only members of the Security Council's Permanent Five not to have done so. That means Palestine still cannot become a full UN member.

Australia and the UK, whose foreign ministers joined their French and 27 other counterparts a week ago in calling for an end to the Gaza carnage, clarified later that they would not follow France's gesture for now. The irony is that it was France's agreement in 1916 to hand Ottoman Palestine to Britain and the British foreign secretary's action in 1917 that led to the violent waves of Zionism battering West Asia even today. Like imperial Britain then, America today wants the resourceful Zionists in its sphere of influence. So, any attempt at peace between the occupier and the occupied has remained agonisingly out of reach.

The crucial difference is that the attritional land grab movement of that era has transmogrified into a state escalating human catastrophe and armed by the US. Emboldened, Israeli ministers routinely express a wish for the Palestinians to ship out of their land or shuffle off their mortal coil. The hatred has percolated so deeply that Israeli adolescents protest against or destroy food aid meant for starving Palestinians. The man-made famine has forced an average of 115 Gazan kids admitted to hospitals for malnutrition every day since early 2025, the Unicef reported last week. Deaths caused by hunger are rising daily. Britain's promise to airdrop food packets is unsustainable, given that Israel strafed Palestinians the last time they swarmed to collect such packets.

Meanwhile, Israeli forces in Gaza and Zionist settlers in the West Bank continue to act with impunity. With neither Donald Trump nor Benjamin Netanyahu showing any inclination to rein in the dogs of war, the least the global community can do is to pressure Israel to allow food aid at once and support Palestine's freedom struggle at international forums. Anything less would mean the abdication of shared humanity.

QUICK TAKE

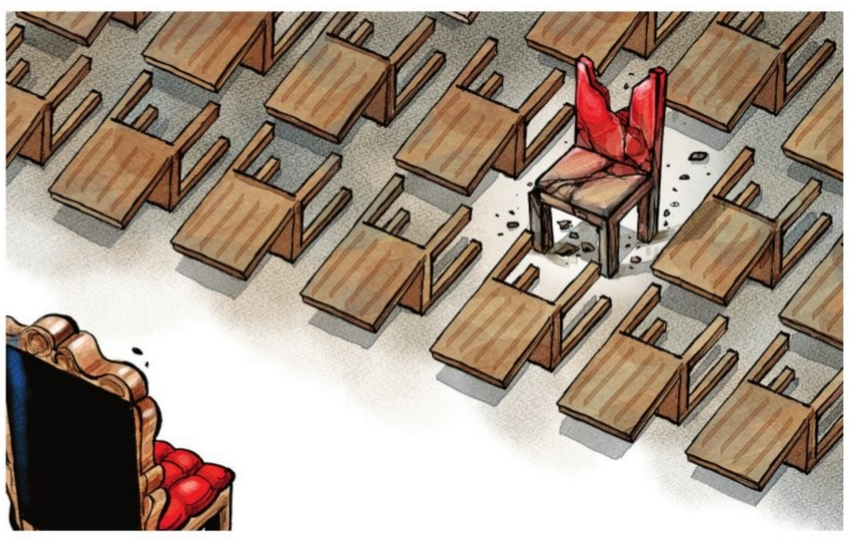
TONGUE OF GOVERNANCE

AN ADM-rank officer posted in Nainital recently admitted he could understand English but could not speak it fluently. That left an Uttarakhand HC bench questioning whether the ADM can "effectively control an executive post" because of his "inability to convey in English". Amidst politically acrimonious language debates nationwide, the court's assertion could risk being construed in this democratic and multilingual country as equating English proficiency with the ability to administer. The court's concern might stem from practical considerations, but competent governance in India primarily hinges on the bureaucrats' ability to engage with local populations and effectively implement policy. Should language hierarchies define the threshold of power is the question.

The fact that he has not been given a farewell, and that none in the BJP visited him to inquire after his health, suggests that the government was no longer in a mood to tolerate him

DHANKHAR'S EXIT: A CAUTIONARY TALE OF POLITICAL AMBITIONS

KAPIL SIBAL
Senior lawyer and member of Rajya Sabha



SOURAV ROY

THOSE who live by the sword, die by the sword. The journey of Jagdeep Dhankhar, former Vice President of India, in some sense, reflects the nature of contemporary politics. Dhankhar has been a temporary resident of many political parties. He initially joined the Janata Dal and was elected to the Lok Sabha from the Jhunjhunu constituency in 1989. He soon joined the Congress, contesting the 1991 general elections from Ajmer. He lost. However, he succeeded in getting elected to the Rajasthan Assembly. In 2008, he joined the BJP. Opportunism in politics provides a springboard to success. Here, he found his peace.

We call ourselves a democratic Republic, but neither democracy nor the fundamental tenets of Republicanism are reflected in today's politics. There was a fleeting semblance of that years ago, but today, it is completely effaced.

Dhankhar was catapulted to the office of Governor in West Bengal. There, he acted as the spokesperson of the BJP. He left no stone unturned to tarnish the TMC's reputation, and worked at the behest of the Union government to destabilise Mamata Banerjee's regime. The BJP's initial agenda seemed to gain traction, but Mamata came up trumps. The BJP has been seeking a foothold in several states, including Tamil Nadu, Kerala, West Bengal, Andhra Pradesh and Telangana. But for their sizeable presence in Karnataka, they found themselves forlorn in several southern states. Dhankhar, having demonstrated both his mettle and loyalty, the Modi-Shah duo found him to be a convenient accessory to their agendas. He turned out to be more loyal than many votaries of the BJP. This catapulted him to the office of Vice President. The 'kisan putra' eventually found himself chairing the Rajya Sabha.

The concentration of power in the hands of the Chairman and the manner of its exercise are reflected in the proceedings of the Rajya Sabha. The suspension of opposition members, instances of switching off their microphones, and the open bias reflected in the allocation of subject matters to be raised and discussed in the House are all matters of record. The frequent public articulations of the Vice President questioning the theory of the Constitution's 'basic structure' and that the laws made by Parliament must get primacy within the constitutional framework, and reprimanding members of the House raising objections to and questioning the constitutionality of legislation initiated, are also reflected in the proceedings of the House. The Chairman's conduct, both within and outside the House, often aligned with the BJP's agenda and ideology. He frequently commented upon the necessity of enacting and implementing a legislative framework in which the power to appoint judges to the higher judiciary was vested in the government.

Despite all this, the Vice President resigned on July 21, 2025, citing alleged health reasons that prevented him from continuing in office.

It is pretty clear from subsequent events that the reason the Vice President resigned had nothing to do with his 'precarious' health, but rather with his actions, both known and unknown to the public. What is evident is that his announcement in the Rajya Sabha regarding the motion moved against Justice Yashwant Varma riled the government because the Lok Sabha, which was also seized of a similar motion by more than 100 Members of that House, had not dealt with it. This appears to be the trigger point for the Vice President's resignation, apart from other possible reasons that we may not be aware of. The meeting of the Business Advisory Committee held at 4:30 pm on the day of his resignation, not being attended either by the Leader of the House, or the Minister of Law & Justice, or, for that matter, the Minister for Parliamentary Affairs, was an ominous signal, a precursor to what was to follow. The fact that he has not been given a farewell, and that none in the BJP visited him to inquire after his health, along with the tepid tweet from the Prime Minister, suggested that the government was no longer in a mood to tolerate him.

Now that he has demitted office, the election to the office of the Vice President has to be held expeditiously. Under Article 68(2) of the Constitution, there is no fixed timeline within which the election must be held to fill the vacancy in that office. It must happen as soon as possible after the vacancy occurs. According to the Presidential and Vice-Presidential Elections Act, 1952, the Election Commission of India must notify the schedule for the election, and the process must conclude within a maximum period of 32 days. The law allows 14 days for filing nominations, followed by one day for scrutiny, and a two-day window for withdrawal of candidature.

Thereafter, the poll must be held not earlier than 15 days from the date of withdrawal. Taking this into account, the election cannot be held before 32 days from the date of notification of its schedule by the Election Commission of India. It is, therefore, quite clear that the election for the next Vice President would take place only after the end of the Monsoon Session on August 21, 2025.

What this tells us about the nature of our polity today is that this government will not tolerate those who act independently of its wishes. Those who do not fall in line, regardless of the office they occupy, will be dealt with in accordance with the government's political will.

I wish the Vice President had the courage to stand up for the dignity of the office he held. That he was willing to sacrifice it and quietly resign, again falling in line with the dictates of his political masters, tells us as much about the man as the state of politics in our country. That he has chosen to do so will be remembered as one of the saddest days in the history of our Republic.

(Views are personal)
(Tweets @KapilSibal)

THE POET SAINT WHO TAUGHT SIMPLE DEVOTION

RENUKA NARAYANAN

FAITHLINE

JULY 31 is Tulsidas Jayanti, honouring the 528th birth anniversary of the influential poet-philosopher of Varanasi. The 16th-century author of the *Ramcharitmanas* wrote his 'people's Ramayana' in Awadhi, the everyday dialect of his region, to simplify matters for the common person. Tulsidas, as noted by Ramayana scholars, also observed in his day that the public was prone to be easily impressed and misled by all kinds of fantastical ascetics and their doctrines.

He disapproved of yogis who grew long nails, bound their hair in coils, wore strange, frightening ornaments, and, so to speak, dressed for the fairground. He is noted as saying in another work, the *Vinaya Patrika* in Brijbhasha, '*Bahumat muni bahu panth puranani, jahan-tahan jhagaro soh* (The seers profess many opinions, there are many old stories about many paths to salvation, and there are quarrels all over the place)'.

He submitted that real religion was much less complicated, that it was a direct connection between a soul and God, whom his guru personally taught him to see as Ram.

Therefore, Tulsi's repeated spiritual advice for people living out their lives in this particular Kalyug was brief and straightforward: "*Kalyug jog na jagya na gnana / Ek aadhar Ram gun gaana* (In Kalyug, neither austerity, nor sacrifice, nor deep knowledge is required / Singing in praise of Ram is the only path to salvation)."

The public could not resist the triple impact of Tulsi's case, the heartbreaking appeal of Valmiki's story that Tulsi retold with his own twists, such as the Lakshman *rekha* incident, and Tulsi's poetry, which seemed simple yet was profoundly musical and meaningful. The history of religion in North India forever changed with the advent of the *Ramcharitmanas*. However, Tulsi's Ram is a faultless figure in monochrome gold, unlike Valmiki's human-textured hero. So, it strikes me that since everything has a socio-historic context, was Tulsi's Ram the deeply internalised response of North Indian Hinduism to the monotheism of the invaders? The political attempts today to make Ram a warlike rallying point suggest such a possibility. It may be something to consider and consciously delink from our attachment to the *Ramcharitmanas*, for it is not poor Tulsi's fault in the least.

Meanwhile, he lives in our very marrow, and not only in the Hindi belt. Even devotees in the South know Tulsi's Hanuman Chalisa by heart today. There is an anthology of devotees' questions to Tulsi, called the *Sankhavali*, which asks things like, 'What did they eat in the forest?', 'Which mother did they bow to first?', for Ram is abidingly real to believers.

Tulsidas was protected by fellow-poet Abdur Rahim Khan-e-Khanan, then the Mughal governor of Varanasi. He upheld Tulsi's artistic freedom against the ultra-orthodox priests who foolishly opposed Tulsi's rendering of the Sanskrit epic into 'common' speech. By enabling the common folk to own the Ramayana actively, Tulsi effectively countered the attempts at conversion that were rampant in North India under foreign rule. Rahim was a Muslim, a celebrated poet in Akbar's court and also a trusted military commander. His mother belonged to a converted Rajput family, and thereby Krishna-love persisted in his veins, glowing like the steady flame of the puja lamp, despite his official adherence to the new, foreign religion.

WIKIMEDIA COMMONS

The public could not resist the triple impact of Tulsi's case, the heartbreaking appeal of Valmiki's story, which Tulsi retold with his twists, such as the Lakshman rekha incident, and Tulsi's poetry, which seemed simple yet was profoundly musical and meaningful

It came to Tulsi's attention that Rahim always looked downward when giving alms to the poor. Tulsi sent a couplet to Rahim, asking why he did so. He wrote: "*Aisi deni dain kyun, kith seekhey ho sain/Jyon jyon kar unchyo karo, tyon tyon neechey nain.*" Meaning, "O great person, where have you learnt this way of giving? As your hands rise (to give), your eyes look down."

By then, Kashi's governor had Tulsi's measure as a fellow poet and deeply spiritual person. He realised that Tulsi was well aware of the reason and was merely trolling him in a friendly way to explain it to others. So, Rahim sent back this couplet in reply: "*Dainhaar koi aur hai, bhejat jo din rain, log hum par bharam kare, taaso neechey nain.*" Meaning, "The Giver is someone else, giving day and night. The world has a misconception that I am the giver. So, I lower my eyes, abashed."

Reading about this incident had a profound impact on me. Rahim had kept the dignity of the poor, with the awareness that what we think is 'ours' really belongs to the One. The opening lines of the Isha Upanishad, saying precisely that, came to mind.

So, I decided to try something different in my small interactions, which are usually with the old. Instead of raising a hand above theirs to drop money, I began holding out the ten or twenty rupee note in my cupped hands, not as alms but as an offering, below or towards the outstretched hands. It didn't feel awkward to Indian me. The askers looked confused for a moment, and then a smile lit up their faces, and they picked up the money, uttering a blessing. That meant a lot because I believe in the power of *dua*. Rahim's body language had changed mine.

Rahim's tomb now stands restored in New Delhi, near Humayun's much grander one. The tomb was built by Rahim himself for his wife in 1598, and he was buried in it in 1627. In 1753-4, marble and sandstone from Rahim's tomb were looted by Safdarjang for his tomb. However, Rahim's true monument is his poetry, which is taught in schools alongside Kabir's. As for Tulsi, he is a beloved part of our lives forever, and we gratefully honour him.

(Views are personal)
(shebaba09@gmail.com)

MAILBAG

WRITE TO: letters@newindianexpress.com

States' tradition

Ref: *Farmers: History of cop-outs, promise of a co-op policy* (Jul 27). Since, cooperation is a state subject, the Centre must not arbitrarily impose the cooperative policy. By preserving traditional practice, chances for rearing the same results as an independent cooperative system must be utilised.
B Veerakumaran Thampi, email

RSS' wrath

Ref: *VP's exit fuels BJP's ideological churn* (Jul 27). The BJP's 75-year retirement rule has become a selective weeding out, for those earning the wrath of RSS cadres. Modi will certainly defy this rule due to his indispensability. Now the party leadership is left with a choice to either follow RSS' core policies, or keep chasing power.
D Sethuraman, Chennai

Cinematic epoch

Ref: *The golden crop half a century ago* (Jul 27). Amid the Emergency, *Apoorva Raagangal* lit up screens with bold themes, Rajinikanth's charisma, Kamal Haasan's intensity and the unforgettable music. Even *Sholay*'s Hindi tunes struck a national chord. It was a time when cinema spoke straight to the heart—beyond language or borders.
Avinashiappan Myilsami, Coimbatore

Violative superstitions

Ref: *State action not enough to curb superstitions* (Jul 26). The recent cases in Odisha expose how deep-rooted superstitions continue to dominate rural life—suppressing personal freedom and dignity while violating constitutional rights—demanding urgent legal action to eradicate such regressive practices.
Anfas P, Kozhikode

Curry favour

Ref: *Bihar horror: Chirag raps CM on ambulance rape* (Jul 27). Chirag Paswan expressing 'regret' over having to support the Nitish government is more aimed at currying favour with the BJP leadership at the expense of the chief minister' seat.
C G Kuriakose, Kothamangalam

Superintelligent AI

Ref: *Frankenstein fallacy: Fear of the AI is the default setting* (Jul 27). Science does not recognise the soul as a legitimate concept. However, it does acknowledge consciousness, even if its nature remains elusive. We must stay wary that AI remains dependent on human-designed algorithms, and does not develop a dominant superintelligence of its own.
Varghese Mani, Thrissur

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POSTS OF THE DAY

Akhilesh Yadav @yadavakhilesh

Creating a 'Holding Center' to harass the country's legitimate citizens is illegal. The court should take cognizance of this and suspend the guilty officials.

Dharmendra Pradhan @dpradhanbjp

Maan Ki Baat has evolved as a platform to celebrate pioneering efforts, touch upon the collective successes of the country and inspiring achievements of our citizens.

Arvind Kejriwal @ArvindKejriwal

Homage to the former President, and "Missile Man" Dr A P J Abdul Kalam Ji on his death anniversary. His life, and his simplicity continue to inspire millions.

INDIA bloc demands halt to SIR, says data 'flawed'

'Revision not a correction exercise, will lead to exclusion of 2 cr voters'

PREETHA NAIR @ New Delhi

WITH over 65 lakh voters at the risk of exclusion after the first phase of the Bihar Special Intensive Revision (SIR) exercise, the INDIA bloc parties on Sunday asked the Election Commission of India (ECI) to stop the SIR process immediately, alleging that the data is 'flawed'.

At a joint conference held by Opposition alliance partners in Bihar, including Congress, RJD, CPI(ML), and CPI(M), the leaders launched a scathing attack on the ECI, saying that the SIR is based on 'opacity' and termed it 'institutional arrogance'.

The leaders also alleged that the EC's claims that the list of voters who have died or relocated have been shared with parties was false.

In a joint statement, the bloc said, "Our apprehension is turning out to be true. We had warned that this drive would ultimately lead to the exclusion of nearly two crore people. The EC is basing voter deletions on flawed form-based data. The scrutiny is not over; more exclusions are likely in the coming month. We will go to the people on this issue. Even NDA allies are seeing their voters affected."

Congress Rajya Sabha MP Abhishek Manu Singhvi said that the SIR lacks clarity. "The entire exercise reeks of institutional arrogance. There are too many inconsistencies and no clarity. This is not a correction exercise; this is exclusion in the name of verification," he said.

"Opacity has become the hallmark of your functioning. 63 lakh voters are being considered for deletion, and the number may grow. This is disenfranchisement," said RJD MP Manoj Jha.

Data released by the EC on Sunday showed that out of 7.89 crore electors as on 24th June, 2025, over 7.24 crore electors submitted their enumeration forms. Out of this, 22 lakh electors are deceased. 36 lakh not found or permanently shifted and 7 lakh have enrolled at multiple places.

The ECI, in its key findings, said that discrepancies were identified during the enumeration exercise carried out from June 24 to July 25. It said that the Booth Level Officers (BLOs) did not find these electors or did not get back their enumeration forms because (1) they may have become voters in other states, (2) ceased to exist, not returned their forms on time, or expressed unwillingness to remain registered.

There are too many inconsistencies and no clarity. This is not a correction exercise; this is exclusion in the name of verification.

Abhishek Manu Singhvi, Congress MP

MV Act changes on the anvil to make guidelines mandatory for states

PARVEZ SULTAN @ New Delhi

THE Centre is working on a proposal to amend the Motor Vehicles (MV) Act to ensure that key guidelines issued by the Union Government become binding on states, government sources said.

The move aims to address the current legal ambiguity arising from the concurrent nature of legislation on motor vehicles, where both the Centre and states have law-making powers. Officials say delays or inaction by some states on critical reforms create a legal vacuum, hampering the uniform implementation of road safety and transport policies.

"If states don't act on certain matters, important reforms are left out. The idea is to avoid a situation where nothing moves forward due to jurisdictional gaps," a source said, adding that discussions are underway and the final proposal is likely to be taken up soon.

The proposed changes would make select Central guidelines mandatory, particularly those related to road safety, vehicle regulation, and transport policy.

Besides prioritising user safety, driver welfare, stricter safety measures, and mandating green mobility, the guidelines also put a cap on surge pricing. States are expected to adopt these within three months.

The Centre is planning amendments to Section 93 of the Motor Vehicles Act to make its guidelines binding on states in the absence of state-specific regulations. "Motor Vehicles Aggregator Guidelines are under section 93 of the Act. We plan to make amendments in section 93 then if states don't have their arrangement, the Centre's guidelines will come into play. So the other advantage of bringing amendments will be; suppose there are no such arrangements in states, then it will be easier for stakeholders to work according to our model guidelines. Efforts are on to make desired changes before the budget session," said sources.

Section 93 governs licensing for transport sector agents, including ticket sellers, customer solicitors, and logistics handlers. Since the 2019 amendment, cab aggregators have also been brought under this framework. The proposed changes aim to ensure uniformity across states and offer greater legal clarity for businesses operating nationwide.

INSIDER TRACK

Kamal enters (and blooms)

Actor-turned-politician Kamal Haasan officially took his seat in the Rajya Sabha, and how the cameras took notice! He walked in with quiet confidence, took the designated path to his seat, and suddenly the Upper House looked like a film premiere. Even seasoned journalists couldn't resist snapping selfies, and a few members of the ruling party looked starstruck. An elderly Parliament staffer couldn't help but remark, "Ab vipaksh ka Kamal, paksh ke Kamal ko takkar dega (now the Opposition's lotus will challenge the ruling party's lotus)." On his part, Haasan looked the model statesman — graciously greeting all who approached, taking photos without flinching, and accompanied by his actor-daughter and colleagues from the South. "It's the beauty of democracy to meet and wish everyone," he said with a smile. For once, no one rolled their eyes at idealism.

Tharoor's mango party

And finally, in true Delhi summer tradition, Shashi Tharoor hosted his famous mango-chaat party at his Lodhi Road residence. The political fruit salad was sumptuous. Congress colleagues were relatively scarce (maybe it was too hot, perhaps too awkward?), but the guest list leaned intriguingly bipartisan. Union ministers Jitendra Singh and Anupriya Patel showed up, as did BJP MP Shashank Mani, TMC's Mahua Moitra (with husband Pinaki Misra), and an assortment of Rajya Sabha regulars and diplomats. Sudha Murthy lingered around the mango counters, Harsh Vardhan Shringla discussed trade while sipping mango lassi. Tharoor was the ever-charming host — gliding from group to group, possibly quoting Tagore and Shakespeare in the same breath. If nothing else, it was a timely reminder that politics may divide, but mangoes unite.

EC's Vegas Rule on Bihar rolls

Ah, Bihar in mid-summer — not exactly a holiday destination, unless it is the election season. While the rest of the country was trying to keep cool, the Election Commission of India (ECI) found itself in the eye of a different kind of storm: the Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of the state's voter rolls. On the surface, the ECI was silent — stoically non-reactive as opposition parties went full megaphone, accusing it of voter suppression, particularly of the marginalised. Top national and state leaders openly questioned the Commission's credibility, suggesting it was conveniently trimming the electoral rolls with a not-so-invisible hand. However, behind the scenes, the story was quite different. In a move that can only be described as "institutionally enigmatic," the Commission opted for off-the-record media briefings, invoking what officials casually referred to as 'The Vegas Rule'. It means, "We'll talk, but no quoting, please." Borrowed from the glitzy world of Las Vegas (and perhaps a few spy thrillers), the rule was intended to create a "safe and trusting" environment. Or so they said. What happened, of course, stayed behind closed doors. In those unrecorded briefings, ECI officials elaborated at length on the legal and constitutional basis for the SIR, repeatedly asserting that their only aim was to ensure that only Indian citizens were on the electoral rolls. Which is entirely fair — assuming the implementation doesn't quietly shave away inconvenient voters. Alas, with no quotes and no recordings, we're left with little more than shadows and well-dressed speculation.

Kashish Mittal: When AI meets Alaap

Meanwhile, on the opposite end of the public service spectrum, Kashish Mittal — a name once etched on an IAS nameplate — is now better known for going viral with a raag. The ex-bureaucrat-turned-tech-entrepreneur has been setting the internet abuzz with a video of him singing Hindustani classical music with the ease of a seasoned vocalist. The video has crossed 10 lakh views, much more than many official government circulars ever manage. Mittal isn't your average ex-IAS officer. An academic rockstar, he snagged All-India Rank 6 in JEE, studied Computer Science at IIT Delhi, and then cleared the UPSC exam for good measure — earning AIR 58 in 2011. In 2019, he did the unthinkable: he left the IAS. Instead of fading into quiet retirement or high-profile consultancy gigs, he co-founded Disha AI, aiming to build tech with purpose. And in his spare time? He sings. Like, really sings. His story is equal parts brain, bureaucrat, and bansuri. A reminder that sometimes the best kind of public service happens when you quit the service altogether.

SC set to take up Sharda University, IIT-Kharagpur student suicide cases today

SUCHITRA KALYAN MOHANTY @ New Delhi

THE Supreme Court is set to hear on Monday, the suo motu cognisance (SMC) proceedings in the recent student suicide deaths at IIT Kharagpur and Sharda University in Uttar Pradesh's Greater Noida.

A two-judge bench comprising Justices JB Pardiwala and R Mahadevan had, on July 21, before taking the matter on a suo motu basis, directed both institutions to submit their responses regarding the incidents.

The SC had appointed senior advocate Aparna Bhatt as amicus curiae and asked Bhatt to provide detailed information in the matter.

Acting on the directions of the court, Bhatt said, in the Sharda University student suicide case, the girl's body was shifted by the university staff even before the police came.

As per police officials, since multiple people left fingerprints, the crime scene was compromised. Similarly, in the IIT Kharagpur case, she was informed by the varsity's Registrar that although a post-mortem had been conducted, the details were not known yet.

The case pertains to Ritam Mandal, a fourth-year mechanical engineering student of IIT Kharagpur, who allegedly died by suicide on July 18. She was a resident of Kolkata and was studying in a five-year dual degree programme. This is the fourth such case in the IIT Kharagpur campus since January this year.

Jyoti Sharma, a second-year BDS student, allegedly died by suicide in the hostel of Sharda University. The court had earlier said that "something is wrong".

On July 25, the SC issued 15 pan-India guidelines to combat the problems of a rise in suicides, safety and mental health issues among students in edu

Amid Tejas delays, MiG exit move hits Air Force strength

MAYANK SINGH @ New Delhi

AS the Indian Air Force prepares to retire its last MiG-21 squadron on September 19, concerns are mounting over the slow pace of its replacement: the indigenous Light Combat Aircraft (LCA) Tejas.

The impending retirement of No: 23 squadrons will bring the IAF's fighter strength down to just 29 squadrons, far short of the sanctioned 42.

The MiG-21, inducted in 1963 as a high-altitude interceptor, later served in ground attack roles. Once the backbone of air power, over 850 MiG-21s have flown in IAF service across 24 fighter squadrons and four training units. Nearly 300 of them were lost in accidents, giving rise to the "Flying Coffin" tag.

While most in the IAF agree the retirement is overdue, anxiety stems from delays in inducting Tejas jets meant to replace the MiGs. "It is a logical move as there is a shift in aerial combat from close combat to missile-based engagements, electronic warfare and informatised warfare," said a serving fighter pilot. What alarms the IAF is the slow pace of Tejas production. The LCA programme began in the 1980s to replace MiGs. Tejas first flew in 2001, but induction began only in 2016. The IAF currently operates 36 of the 40 Tejas Mk-1s ordered, with four still pending.

Last year, the IAF signed a ₹48,000 crore deal with Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL) for 83 Tejas Mk-1A aircraft. It hopes to induct 180 Mk-1A and at least 120 Mk-2 variants in the next 15 years.

However, delays continue to rattle confidence. In a viral video from Aero India 2025, IAF Chief Air Chief Marshal A.P. Singh was heard telling HAL officials: "At the moment, I am just not confident of HAL, which is a very wrong thing to happen." HAL has assured the delivery of 12 Tejas Mk-1As in the current financial year. The first Tejas squadron, 'Flying Daggers' (No. 45 Squadron), was ironically a MiG-21 Bis unit — symbolising a full-circle moment in IAF's transition. For many in the force, the phasing out of the MiG-21 evokes a deep nostalgia. But until Tejas deliveries ramp up, the feeling could be bittersweet .

THE REPLACEMENT PLAN

- **83 LCA** Tejas Mk 1A ordered at **₹46,000 cr** in 2021, delivery was to start in March
- **97 LCA** Tejas Mk 1A for **₹67,000 cr** was cleared by DAC in Nov 2023
- **40 LCA** Tejas Mk 1 were ordered initially, of which 35 have been inducted till now
- Tejas is a single engine, lightweight multirole fighter, meant to replace MiG 21

Shux space return spurs curiosity in science: PM

RAJESH KUMAR THAKUR @ New Delhi

PRIME Minister Narendra Modi on Sunday hailed astronaut Shubhanshu Shukla's recent return from space, calling it a moment of national pride that has ignited new enthusiasm for science among young Indians.

In the 124th episode of Mann Ki Baat, Modi said Shukla's safe landing sparked "a wave of happiness" across the country, especially among children now inspired to dream of careers in space science. "Little children now say—we too will go to space, we too will land on the moon," he said.

Citing the growing momentum in India's space sector, the PM noted that the number of space-related start-ups in the country has surged from fewer than 50 to over 200 in just five years.

Modi also highlighted the impact of India's recent space missions, particularly Chandrayaan-3, in fuelling scientific curiosity. He mentioned the INSPIRE-MANAK initiative, which promotes grassroots innovation among schoolchildren, reporting that participation has doubled post-Chandrayaan.

Turning to India's achievements in science, he lauded Indian students for their performance at international Olympiads in chemistry and mathematics.

Modi also spotlighted the UNESCO recognition of 12 Maratha forts as World Heritage Sites. He urged citizens to visit historic forts like Shivneri, Pratapgarh, and Salher to connect with India's legacy of courage and sacrifice. He also paid tribute to freedom fighter Khudiram Bose and reflected on August's significance as a month of revolution, marked by the anniversary of Lokmanya Tilak's death, the Quit India Movement, and National Handloom Day.

The PM shared success stories from across the country, such as Maharashtra's Kavita Dhawale and tribal women in Odisha benefiting from handloom sector support. In Tamil Nadu, Mani Maran has revived palm leaf manuscript reading, preserving ancient Indian knowledge systems. Meanwhile, in Odisha's Kandhamal, folk music is being used to raise awareness about forest fires.

Modi also praised Assam's Kaziranga National Park for using tech-enabled bird census methods to map biodiversity, and Gumla district in Jharkhand for adopting fish farming under the Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana.

Celebrating India's success at the World Police and Fire Games—with nearly 600 medals—Modi said the 2029 edition would be hosted in India. He also discussed the 'Khelo Bharat Niti 2025', which aims to empower rural athletes and boost sports start-ups.

New National Sports Policy to empower rural athletes

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...Pats ex-Maoist for foraying into fish farming

MUKESH RANJAN @ Ranchi

PM Narendra Modi made a special mention of the Maoist-affected Gumla district of Jharkhand in 'Mann Ki Baat', where he shared an inspirational story of a youth who left the path of extremism and joined the mainstream by adopting fish farming for livelihood.

Notably, the story of this youth, Om Prakash Sahu, was covered by this newspaper in its July 6 edition.

The PM said, "Sometimes the brightest light emerges from the darkest of place. The best example of this is Gumla district of Jharkhand, once notorious for Maoist violence. The villages of Basia block were becoming deserted..... people were living in the shadow of fear. A youth named Om Prakash Sahu ji left the path of violence and started fish farming. Then he inspired many friends like him to do the same.....his efforts had an impact...those who earlier held guns are now holding fishing nets," said the Prime Minister.

Govt drive against misleading food product ads a non-starter: RTI reply

KAVITA BAJELI-DATT @ New Delhi

THE Centre's two key ministries and a department, which are tasked with monitoring and regulating misleading advertisements and false claims about food products, have failed to detect any such promotions in the past two years, a series of RTIs have revealed.

This is despite the fact that the Nutrition Advocacy in Public Interest (NAPi), a national think tank on nutrition consisting of independent medical experts, paediatricians, and nutritionists, said they have spotted a number of such misleading advertisements on a daily basis in electronic and print media and, of late, social media, too.

The Information and Broadcasting Ministry, which plays a crucial role in regulating and monitoring advertisements, replied in the negative in an RTI reply to a question on which food product ads they have identified as misleading between September 2023 and March 2025 under the Advertising Code (Rule 7) under the Cable Television Networks (Regulation) Act, 1995. In its reply, the I&B ministry said that, according to readily available records, no food product advertisements were identified as misleading between September 2023 and March 2025 under the rules, and so the question of taking action "doesn't arise."

Similarly, the Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution ministry was asked the same question, and their reply was "the required information is not available."

The Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI), also establishes standards to ensure food safety, was also asked the same question. The FSSAI, in its reply, said that it regularly monitors advertisements disseminated through various platforms, including e-commerce portals, print media, and social media.

"We were not surprised that the government has not taken any action, but were certainly shocked that a system has been created that does not do any good and continues to ask people to keep complaining," Dr Arun Gupta, a paediatrician, nutrition advocate and NAPi Convener told this paper.

On the recent Union Health Ministry's direction to showcase "sugar and oil boards" in all government offices and public institutions, a story first reported by this paper, Dr Gupta said, "The real culprit is marketing, advertising, sponsorship of sports by ultra-processed foods (UPF) and HFSS food product industry. It's marketing that increases consumption of unhealthy diets."

"This is a communication attempt by the centre; however, to be effective in reducing consumption, legal frameworks are required that would put Front-of-Pack Nutrition (FOPN) Labelling warning and banning ads of HFSS," said Dr Gupta, who was a member of the PM's Council on India's Nutrition Challenges.

'INFO UNAVAILABLE'

1. 2 ministries and one dept failed to detect any misleading ads of food products
2. "Required information is not available": Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution ministry
3. The Ministry of Consumer Affairs, through the CCPA tackles misleading ads

HOSPITAL HORROR

A hospital employee has been arrested for allegedly raping a 28-year-old woman after administering a sedative injection under the pretext of treatment at a private hospital in UP's Balrampur, police said.

3 SISTERS AGED 5, 8, & 10, POISONED TO DEATH BY MOTHER IN THANE

INDIA	Max	Min		Max	Min
Ahmedabad	28	25	Mumbai	29	28
Bhopal	24	23	Panaji	29	27
Jaipur	32	26	Patna	30	27
Amritsar	34	27	Lucknow	31	27
Chennai	37	28	Port Blair	31	28
Kolkata	30	27	Imphal	27	22
Srinagar	31	18	Chandigarh	32	26

Cong push for statehood puts NC on the defensive

Omar campaign on restoring Article 370 shelved after forming govt

FAYAZ WANI @ Srinagar

FOR the first time since formation of the Omar Abdullah government in Jammu and Kashmir last year, the Congress has pushed its ally, the National Conference (NC), into an uncomfortable political corner.

By unilaterally stepping up its campaign for the restoration of J&K statehood, the Congress has not only bypassed its long-time partner but also taken the battle to the national stage on its own terms.

The Congress, which contested the 2024 J&K Assembly polls in alliance with the NC and won six seats, has so far refused to join the government, maintaining it would only do so once statehood is restored.

Now, the party has intensified its push through organising protests in Srinagar, Jammu, and at Jantar Mantar in Delhi. Top Congress leaders, including party president Mallikarjun Kharge and Leader of Opposition in Lok Sabha Rahul Gandhi, have written to Prime Minister Narendra Modi, demanding a bill to restore statehood during the ongoing monsoon session of Parliament.

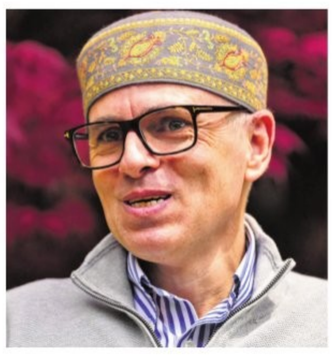
The Congress's assertive stance seems to have caught the NC off guard. While the NC campaigned on restoring Article 370, the issue was effectively shelved after forming the government. Instead, the party pivoted to seeking restoration of statehood, passing a resolution to that effect in its first cabinet meeting in October 2024 and sharing it with top central leaders. However, the issue has since seen no progress.

Political analyst Noor Mohammad Baba said Congress's approach is deliberate. "They're doing what they should have done earlier. Their aggressive push makes NC's passivity stand out. Congress has nothing to lose and everything to gain," he said. "It may even help them regain some ground in Jammu."

Congress's call for a three-day special Assembly session on statehood has increased the pressure. "The government should convene it immediately," said J&K Congress chief Tariq Hamid Karra.

NC's response has been very measured. Senior party leader Hasnain Masoodi said, "Congress didn't take NC into confidence. If informed, even Farooq Abdullah would have joined the Jantar Mantar protest."

Whether the NC will respond by stepping up its own campaign remains to be seen. But with statehood back at the political forefront, the pressure on the ruling party to act decisively is mounting.



Sudden activism aimed at political gains: NC leader

NC's response has been very measured. "Congress didn't take NC into confidence. If informed, even Farooq Abdullah would have joined the Jantar Mantar protest," senior party leader and MLA Hasnain Masoodi said, adding that the Congress's sudden activism might be more aimed at political gains especially ahead of local body polls.

J&K HIGH COURT

Rules tweaked to protect defence personnel rights

FAYAZ WANI @ Srinagar

IN a move to ensure speedy and fair legal recourse for defence personnel, Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh High Court has introduced an amendment to Jammu and Kashmir General Rules (Civil) for the guidance of District and Subordinate Courts of Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh to safeguard legal rights of military personnel. The court has also adopted special measures for prioritising cases related to the defence personnel and their dependents.

The 13-page notification, issued by the Registrar General (Officiating), M K Sharma, was made under the powers granted by Article 227 of the Constitution and Section 122 of the Civil Procedure Code, 1908.

The revised rules emphasise that military personnel are subject to the jurisdiction of civil courts but are protected by certain procedural safeguards. These include limitations on personal appearance in court, immunity from attachment, immunity from arrest for debt, immunity of persons attending courts martial from arrest and priority in respect of Army Air Force personnel's litigation.

The civil courts have been directed to prioritise all cases in which soldiers, officers, or re-servists have obtained or applied for leave to either prosecute or defend a suit.

Education minister comes under fire after Jhalawar school building collapse

RAJESH ASNANI @ Jaipur

IN the aftermath of the roof collapse at a village school in Rajasthan's Jhalawar district, which resulted in the death of seven children, serious questions are being raised regarding the negligence of the state's education department.

At the centre of the political storm is Rajasthan education minister **Madan Dilawar**. During his two years in office, Dilawar remains in the news more for his controversial statements (he even called Mughal Emperor Akbar a 'rapist'), than for any reform in the educational sector.

Dilawar has been accused of mainly pushing a Hindutva and saffronisation agenda on the education system. Recently, he announced the withdrawal of two Class 12 books, citing 'Gandhi family bias'; and stoked a major controversy, prompting a sharp rebuttal from the opposition Congress.

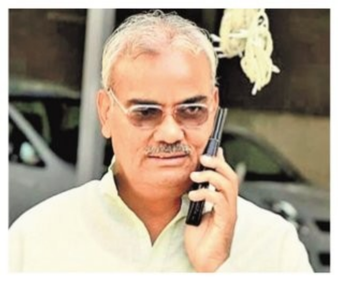
A few months ago, Dilawar's remark that "Teachers wear revealing clothes and come drunk to schools" had also sparked a major row. Besides criticism for enforcing Surya Namaskar in schools, Dilawar has come under fire for issuing 'absurd orders', including planting three hundred saplings per month by every student and 450 by every teacher.

Shockingly, just the day after the funerals of the children killed in the Jhalawar tragedy, the minister was seen being feted with garlands and 'band-baaja' in Bharatpur district.

On being questioned about repairing of dilapidated government schools, the minister said "this is not a household work that money can be given from the pocket."

LoP Tikaram Julie has demanded the resignation Minister Dilawar over the accident. On the issue of his resignation, the Minister said, "We received a list of dilapidated schools, in which the Jhalawar school was mentioned. I have taken responsibility on moral grounds. But it's for the party and the Chief Minister to decide about the resignation."

The Education Department recently sent a proposal of 8,000 schools to the School Education Council. Of these, only 2.000 schools were selected and a proposal of ₹175 crore was sent to the government, but the amount is still awaited.



AHMEDABAD DIARY

DILIP SINGH KSHATRIYA

Our correspondent in Gujarat

dilipsingh@newindianexpress.com

Cong worker silenced over bridge collapse

In the grand tradition of shooting the messenger, the grand old party has possibly taken innovation a step further: they've denied their own messenger a microphone. The worker who dared raise concerns about the crumbling of the Gambhira bridge, the same incident that killed 11 — was barred from meeting Rahul Gandhi. Perhaps the bridge fell under the weight of internal factionalism? With bridges withing the Congress collapsing faster than infrastructure, it's clear the real construction issue is party unity. Rahul's Bharat Jodo Yatra may span the nation, but in Gujarat, the party can't even build a bridge between itself and its own conscience. Talk of the state, indeed.

'More AAP leaders may be jailed ahead of polls'

Former Delhi Chief Minister and AAP national convener Arvind Kejriwal has raised concerns that two more of his party leaders may soon be jailed. Speaking at a rally on Thursday protesting the arrest of AAP MLA Chatur Vasava in Gujarat, Kejriwal accused the BJP of using arrests as a tool to intimidate political opponents. He warned that AAP leaders Isudan Gadhvi and Gopal Italia could be targeted too and possibly arrested before the upcoming Gujarat Assembly elections. Despite the pressure, Kejriwal asserted that neither he nor his party would be deterred by such 'vengeful tactics'.

BJP hunts for a state unit president

The BJP, once famed as the "party with a difference," is now best described as the "party with indifference" — at least when it comes to naming its Gujarat state president. C.R. Patil's term ended a year ago, but the musical chairs continue. Why? Because internal factions are too busy measuring egos to measure leadership qualities. Apparently, finding one agreeable name among so many aspiring kings is harder than winning a Lok Sabha seat in Kerala. The suspense is killing no one, but the drama is so rich, it deserves its own Netflix series: Game of Thorns: Gujarat Edition.

₹35L cash seized from Maoist den in J'khand forest

MUKESH RANJAN @ Ranchi

SECURITY forces have recovered ₹35 lakh cash, apparently belonging to Maoists, from underground caches during anti-Naxal operations being conducted in Saranda jungles of Chaibasa in Jharkhand.

According to Chaibasa police, on the basis of a tip-off that huge amount of money has been kept hidden underground, a joint operation of Jharkhand Jaguar and CRPF was launched in the Chaibasa jungles, during which, the cash was unearthed. The recovered cash was kept by the Maoists to plant landmines and to buy explosives, they said.

The information was shared by Ranchi Range IG through a post on social media. "On a specific intelligence related to Maoist financing, Chaibasa police has recovered ₹35 lakhs approx (exact counting will be done at PS) today. Money was for purchase of explosives to mine the area against forces. Congratulations!" IG Majoj Kaushik wrote on X.

Later, the IG said the entire amount was dumped under ground by the Maoists to be used later against the security forces. The recovery has been made from Saranda jungles under Karaikela police station.

Prohibition review after feedback if INDIA bloc voted to power: Tejashwi

RAMASHANKAR @ Patna

RASHTRIYA Janata Dal (RJD) leader Tejashwi Yadav on Sunday dropped ample hints that the prohibition law in Bihar could be reviewed if the Opposition INDIA bloc formed the next government in the state after the forthcoming assembly election, scheduled to be held in October-November.

Complete prohibition was imposed in Bihar on April 5, 2016, when the Grand Alliance led by chief minister Nitish Kumar was in power. While Nitish Kumar was heading the government, Tejashwi was deputy chief minister.

In 2018, Bihar government had relaxed certain provisions of the prohibition law, including sealing of the premises where liquor bottles have been found or seizing properties linked with those found drunk.

Tejashwi said the issue would be discussed with the people and government officials, and a decision would be taken based on their feedback. An issue should be discussed if it is questioned, he asserted.

Tejashwi is not alone in favour of abolition of prohibition in Bihar. Jan Suraaj Party founder and political activist Prashant Kishor promised to people to dump prohibition law within an hour of formation of government led by Jan Suraaj Party in the state.

Taking a dig at the double-engine government with NDA in power both at the Centre and in the State, Tejashwi said, "One engine of the government is engaged in corruption, the other in crime . Criminals are running the government. Criminals have become Vijay and Samrat," he remarked while obliquely attacking two deputy chief ministers – Vijay Kumar Sinha and Samrat Chaudhary.

'By and for criminals'

Targeting the Nitish Kumar government over the CAG's report for failing to submit utilisation certificates for projects worth `70,877 crore, Tejashwi claimed "this government was of the corrupt, of the criminals," adding, "Gang rapes are being committed in ambulances, firing is going on in broad daylight, more than 100 murders have been committed in a week. No action is being taken."

Punjab to modernise jails with AI surveillance, 5G jammers

HARPREET BAJWA @ Chandigarh

IN a major push to modernise its prison infrastructure and security measures, the Punjab government is rolling out advanced Artificial Intelligence (AI)-based surveillance systems, full-body scanners, and 5G jammers across all 14 jails in the state. The initiative aims to curb drug smuggling, mobile phone use, and incidents of prison violence, while also addressing overcrowding.

The state has sanctioned ₹252 crore for jail upgrades. Out of this ₹126 crore is for installing security equipment and ₹126 crore for constructing new barracks to accommodate over 5,000 additional inmates.

According to senior government officials, AI-enabled CCTV systems will be installed in 11 jails this year as part of a state-wide rollout. "This will help in detection and generating alerts on identification of throws over the walls, crowd detection, entry into prohibited zones, entry or exit of foreign objects," the official said.

Then, the Prison Inmate Calling System has been expanded, with 800 calling machines installed to ensure inmates can legally communicate with their families without resorting to unauthorised means.

To block unauthorised mobile signals and deter criminal coordination from inside the jails, 63 V-Kavach jammers, capable of disrupting 5G and 5GHz Wi-Fi, will be installed in three central jails in the state, Bathinda, New Jail Nabha, and Goindwal, and in the high-security zones of ten others. The procurement process is underway, and towers for the jammers are already being built.

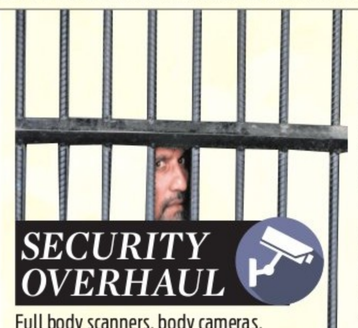
The security revamp also includes procurement of full-body scanners, X-ray tunnel scanners, body-worn cameras, floodlights, searchlights, non-linear junction detectors to detect hidden phones, boom barriers, anti-riot kits, e-carts, and wire mesh in high-security areas. The state's canine squad will also be expanded, with 32 sniffer dogs being inducted, up from fewer than 10 at present.

Punjab prisons now house around 38,000 inmates, far exceeding the sanctioned capacity of 26,081. To tackle this, the state is constructing new barracks in nine jails, which will add capacity for 5,100 prisoners. Of this, around 4,000 spaces are expected to be ready this year.

₹252 crore to be spent on procuring security equipment and upgrading prison infrastructure to accommodate an addition al 5,000 inmates

₹126 CR to be spent on

- AI-based CCTV surveillance at **14** jails
- Non-linear junction detectors to detect mobiles
- **63** V-Kavach jammers (upto **5G** and **5Gz**) to be installed



SECURITY OVERHAUL

Full body scanners, body cameras, searchlights, floodlights, boom barriers, anti-riot kits, wire mesh

32 ADDITIONAL SNIFFER DOGS

- Around **38,000** inmates lodged in Punjab jails against an authorised capacity of **26,081** prisoners
- Construction of new barracks in **9** jails underway to augment capacity by around **5,100** inmates at a cost of around **₹126** crore
- Manpower in jail to be enhanced with **692** personnel to be recruited

Rat infestation threatens iconic Naini Lake

NARENDRA SETHI @ Dehradun

ONCE hailed as a heavenly abode nestled in the Kumaon region of Uttarakhand, the picturesque hill station of Nainital is now grappling with an escalating crisis: a rampant rodent infestation threatening its very identity.

Swarms of rats are not only wreaking havoc in shops and homes but are relentlessly gnawing at the foundations of the historic Naini lake's retaining walls, raising alarms about the lake's structural integrity and the town's future.

The unparalleled beauty of Naini Lake, the jewel in Nainital's crown, is now shadowed by this unwelcome plague. Centuries-old walls, vital for the lake's stability and aesthetic appeal, are progressively being hollowed out by a deceptive network of rat burrows. In numerous sections, these critical structures show visible cracks, signaling a potential catastrophe that could undermine the lake's existence.

Areas from the Boat House Club and Pant Park to the Band Stand and Capital Cinema in the Mallital region, all adjacent to the lake, are particularly vulnerable, with their walls in a precarious state.

The primary culprit behind the deteriorating condition of these historic walls is unequivocally identified as the rodent menace. These rats have dug many tunnels, making the strong structure weak and full of holes, like a honeycomb.

Beyond the walls, their below ground network extends to the land surrounding the Band Stand, significantly escalating the risk of land subsidence – a perilous prospect for a region already prone to geological instability. Tackling this rampant rat population has emerged as a formidable challenge for the local administration and concerned departments.

Nainital Boat Owners' Committee secretary Narendra Singh Chauhan offered an insight into the root cause of the infestation. "The widespread sale of sweet corn (commonly known as 'bhutta') near Pant Park and along the lakeside has inadvertently become a primary breeding ground for these rodents," he said.

"The abundant food waste left behind has led to an unprecedented explosion in their numbers." Chauhan further highlighted that the rat population has seen a dramatic surge specifically since the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic, suggesting a correlation with reduced human activity and changes in waste management during that period.

Traders uneasy as rodents eat into merchandise

Large rats can be seen openly roaming in the Mallital's Pant Park and surrounding areas, making local shopowners anxious. "They not only cause significant damage to merchandise but also pose a grave health risk," local trader Kamal Pandey said. The District Magistrate has taken serious cognisance of the increasing rat population, an official said.

Two bush frog species discovered in Meghalaya, named after Khasi culture

PRASANTA MAZUMDAR @ Guwahati

TWO new bush frogs species have been discovered in the Khasi Hills of Meghalaya. As a tribute to the Khasi cultural traditions, they have been named 'Raorchestes jakoid' and 'Raorchestes jadoh'.

The term 'jakoid' means 'frog' in the Khasi language, while 'jadoh' is a traditional rice and meat dish widely loved in Khasi households. The nomenclature is a way of celebrating Khasi culture and drawing attention to the close links between indigenous communities and regional biodiversity.

'Raorchestes jakoid' was discovered in Lawbah village, while 'Raorchestes jadoh' was found in Langtor. These frogs species are found in bushes and trees near human settlements, indicating a degree of ecological adaptability, although their habitats remain vulnerable to rapid landscape changes.

A study on the discovery was published in the Journal of Threatened Taxa. Lead author Holiness Warjri, a native of Langtor village, shared an emotional connection with the discovery. "Discovering a new species in my own village is both humbling and inspiring. Naming it 'jadoh' was my way of honouring the deep bond between our culture, land, and nature. I hope this frog becomes a symbol pride and conservation for our people," Warjri said.

The study, conducted by researchers from Assam Don Bosco University, Help Earth, and Mizoram University, combined traditional field methods with advanced genetic and acoustic analyses to confirm the species as new to science. The frogs' unique calls, morphology, and DNA sequences place them within Raorchestes parvulus species complex.

Celebrating biodiversity

According to researchers, the findings underscore the rich yet underexplored amphibian diversity of Meghalaya. The authors highlighted the urgent need for further herpetofaunal surveys and habitat protection in the region. This discovery, beyond a scientific milestone, is also a celebration of language, landscape, and role of local communities in conservation.

10 dead
in flood-related incidents in PoK's Gilgit-Baltistan

GLOBAL WEATHER

LR: Light Rain • HR: Heavy Rain • LS: Light Snow • TDS: Thundershower • LC: Light Cloud • SNY: Sunny

Beijing	36	23	SNY	Los Angeles	27	17	SNY
Colombo	31	27	LC	Melbourne	16	6	SNY
Dhaka	32	27	LR	Moscow	28	16	LC
Dubai	44	35	SNY	New York	32	22	SNY
Houston	35	26	SNY	Singapore	34	27	SNY
Istanbul	29	23	SNY	Toronto	29	15	LC
London	30	19	TDS	Washington	36	25	SNY

Israel begins daily fighting pause in parts of Gaza

Jordan, UAE airdrop 25 tons of aid; 38 Palestinians killed in separate Israeli strikes since Sat

DEIR AL-BALAH

THE Israeli military on Sunday began a limited pause in fighting in three populated areas of Gaza for 10 hours a day, part of a series of steps that included multiple airdrops as concerns over surging hunger in the territory mount and Israel faces a wave of international criticism over its conduct in the 21-month war.

The military said it would begin a daily 'tactical pause' in Gaza City, Deir al-Balah and Muwasi, three areas of the territory with large populations, to 'increase the scale of humanitarian aid' entering the territory. The pause was running from 10.00 am to 8.00 pm local time.

In a sign of how precarious the situation remained for people in Gaza, shortly after the pause began, Gaza health officials said an Israeli airstrike on an apartment in Gaza City killed a woman and her four children. A second strike killed four people, including a young boy, his mother and his grandfather, in the eastern Zaytoun neighbourhood, health officials said.

Food experts have warned for months of the risk of famine in Gaza. Images emerging from Gaza in recent days of emaciated children have fanned global criticism of Israel, including by close allies, who have called for an end to the war and the humanitarian catastrophe it has spawned.

"Every delay is measured by another funeral" Israel said the new measures were taking place while it continues its offensive against Hamas in other areas. Health officials in Gaza said at least 38 Palestinians were killed in separate strikes from late Saturday into Sunday, including 23 people seeking aid.

As part of the eased restrictions, the military also said it would put in place secure routes for aid delivery. It also said it carried out aid airdrops into Gaza, which included packages of aid with flour, sugar and canned food. Jordan announced it had carried out three airdrops over the skies of Gaza, including one in cooperation with the United Arab Emirates. It said the cargo planes had dropped 25 tons of food and supplies on several locations in Gaza. The United Nations' food agency welcomed the steps to ease aid restrictions, but said a broader ceasefire was needed to ensure goods reached everyone in need in Gaza. UNICEF called it 'an opportunity to save lives'. Shaina Low, communications adviser for the Norwegian Refugee Council, said the latest steps remained 'far from adequate to address the staggering needs in Gaza.' She called for the opening of all crossings and unrestricted humanitarian access into Gaza. Dr Muneer al-Boursh, director general of Gaza Strip's Health Ministry, called for a flood of medical supplies and other goods to help treat child malnutrition.

Israel and the US recalled their negotiating teams from Qatar on Thursday, blaming Hamas, and Israel said it was considering 'alternative options' to ceasefire talks with the militant group. Israel says it is prepared to end the war if Hamas surrenders, disarms and goes into exile. *AP*

Humanitarian aid is airdropped to Palestinians over Gaza City on Sunday | AFP

Passengers slide down an emergency slide of a smoking jet at Denver airport | X.COM

Boeing 737 jet catches fire during takeoff in US

DENVER

PASSENGERS slid down an emergency slide of a smoking jet at Denver's airport due to a possible problem with the plane's landing gear, authorities said.

American Airlines Flight 3023 reported a 'possible landing gear incident' during its departure from Denver International Airport on Saturday afternoon, the Federal Aviation Administration said. The Boeing 737 MAX 8 was on its way to Miami International Airport.

Video aired by local media showed people sliding down the inflatable chute near the front of the plane while clutching luggage and small children. Some of the passengers, including at least one adult carrying a young child, tripped at the end of the slide and fell onto the concrete runway tarmac. The passengers were then taken to the terminal by bus.

One of the passengers was transported to a medical facility, authorities said. Five people were evaluated for injuries at the scene but did not require hospitalisation, Denver International Airport officials said in a statement.

"About halfway to takeoff speed, we hear a big bang and a pop," passenger Shaun Williams told KUSA-TV. "The pilot immediately started abort procedures for taking off. You could feel him start to hit the brakes." Firefighters called to the airport extinguished a fire after responding to the aircraft, the Denver Fire Department said. In a statement, the FAA said it will investigate. *AP*

Indian-origin man attacked with machete in Australia

MELBOURNE

A 33-year-old Indian-origin man was brutally attacked with a machete by a group of teenagers in Australia, leaving him with multiple injuries, including a nearly severed hand.

Saurabh Anand was approached by the teenage boys from behind when he was walking home on July 19 after picking up medicines at a pharmacy at Central Square Shopping Centre in Altona Meadows, Melbourne, according to media reports and police. They shoved him to the ground before viciously attacking him, *The Age* newspaper reported.

One of the teenagers had his hands in Anand's pockets, rummaging for valuables.

He said another boy punched him in the head repeatedly until he fell to the ground. A third teen pulled out a machete and held it to his throat,

"They didn't stop there," the newspaper quoted Anand as saying from his hospital bed, days after enduring several surgeries to reattach his severed left hand.

"My instinctive reaction was to bring my arm up to protect my face and wrist. While I was trying to protect myself, the machete just went through my wrist. The second attack, the machete went through my hand ... the third went through my bone," Anand said.

Anand alleged he was then slashed and stabbed with the machete on his shoulder and back. "I was just trying to survive," he said. "All I remember is the pain, and my hand was hanging by a thread," he said. *PTI*

PUBLIC NOTICE

Public are Informed that Mrs. Uma S.N being the absolute owner of Residential Property bearing Old Municipal Khatha No.1486/1441, New Khatha No.1829/1675, measuring East to West 41 feet and North to South 16 feet, in all measuring 656 Sq.ft., situated at Old Post Office Road, Malur Town, Malur Taluk and Kolar District and bounded on East by : Road, West By : House Property belongs to T.Sonnappa, North by : Property belongs to Ameenabi and South by : Road.

Affirms that the Original Absolute Sale Deed dated:27.10.2010, executed by Mr.Jabbar in favour of Mrs. G.Leela, registered as Document No.MLR-1-02498/2010-11, stored in CD No.MLRD56, of Book-I, before the Office of the Sub-Registrar, Malur has been lost/misplaced and has not been mortgaged /pledged as collateral security and is not in a position to trace the said original document and had also lodged a online complaint on 26.07.2025, bearing Lost Report No.1721806/2025, about the aforesaid loss.

Any person/s in possession of the aforesaid document may return the same to me or anyone having any sort of claim over the said Property may lodge their objections in writing within 07 days from this day to the undersigned.

A.S. Rajanna, Advocate,
RE Associates, Near BBMP office,
K.R. Puram, Bangalore-560 036.
Ph: 9845179797,
Email: Shubhakaranraj@gmail.com

PUBLIC NOTICE
(Lost Documents)

This is to inform that my client **Sri. V. Ranganathan** had availed housing loan with canara bank by depositing the title deeds pertaining to the schedule property, BDA Site No.16, 1st Main Road, with Khatha No.107, Bangalore Corporation Division No.22, E-PID No.1936576577, Presently BBMP Limit, Ward No.132 (Attiguppe) Old PID No.40-139-16, The BDA Approved layout formed by The Mysore Income Tax Department Co-operative Society Ltd., Situated at Kempapura Agrahara, Kasaba Hobli, Bangalore North Taluk, Bangalore, now known as "Mysore Income Tax Layout", Carved out of Sy. No.340/23 and 341/1 to 7, Site measuring East to West 40 ft and North to South 60 ft, in all measuring 2400 Sq. ft, is owned, possessed, and acquired by **V. RANGANATHAN** S/o Late R. Venkatarama Iyer, the property is bounded on: **East by : Site No.15, West by : Site No.17, North by : 60 ft Road, South by : Site No.19.**

Whereas, my client intends to retain the aforesaid property, where Mother Deed, Khatha Pathra, Khatha Certificate, Extract, EC, Sanction Plan and License, with all property related Documents are Misplaced/Lost by the CANARA BANK HEBBAL BRANCH and TITLE DEEDS DEPOSITED AT RMV EXTENSION. During the superannuation the Housing Loan was cleared in full and upon request for handover of the documents, it is understood that the same is not available/traceable with the Bank.

If any Bank, individuals, people, associations etc, have any claim/ submissions they may do so within **15 days** from the date of Publication of the News item. Thereafter, no claim/queries of whatsoever nature will not be entertained. In case the said documents found please return to the concerned advocate referring the property Owner.

Sri. T. Mohan Raj, Advocate,
MA, LLB, PGDBM, PGDCM,
No.1320, 11th Main, Vijayanagar,
Bangalore-560040.
Mobile No.9900280949.

ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸರ್ಕಾರ
ಸಮಗ್ರ ಶಿಕ್ಷಣ ಇಲಾಖೆ
ಉಪನಿರ್ದೇಶಕರು ಹಾಗೂ ಪದನಿಮಿತ್ತ ಜಿಲ್ಲಾ ಯೋಜನಾ ಸಮನ್ವಯಾಧಿಕಾರಿಗಳ ಕಛೇರಿ, ಸಮಗ್ರ ಶಿಕ್ಷಣ ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ, ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು ದಕ್ಷಿಣ ಜಿಲ್ಲೆ, ಕಲಾಸಹಾಳ್ಳಂ, ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು-02,
ದೂ.ಸಂ. 080-26705415, ಇ-ಮೇಲ್: egovbangaloresouth@gmail.com

ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ: ಸ2/ಸಶಿಕ/ನೇ.ಸು.ಚಂ.ಜೋ/ಹೋ.ಗು.ಸ/ಟೆಂಡರ್/16/2025-26 ದಿನಾಂಕ: 24.07.2025

ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಅಧಿಸೂಚನೆ

2025-26ನೇ ಸಾಲಿಗೆ ಸಮಗ್ರ ಶಿಕ್ಷಣ ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಜಿಲ್ಲಾ ಕಛೇರಿ ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು ದಕ್ಷಿಣ ಜಿಲ್ಲೆ ಈ ಕೆಳಕಂಡ ಟೆಂಡರ್‌ಗಳನ್ನು ಕರೆಯಲಾಗಿದ್ದು ಆಸಕ್ತ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆಗಳು ಮತ್ತು ಅರ್ಹ ಮತ್ತು ನೋಂದಾಯಿತ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆಗಳು ಭಾಗವಹಿಸುವುದು ವಿವರ ಕೆಳಗಿನಂತಿದೆ.

ಕ್ರ. ಸಂ.	ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ	ವಿವರ	ಬಿಡ್ ಸಲ್ಲಿಸಲು ಕೊನೆಯ ದಿನಾಂಕ
01	SSK/2025-26/SEO251	SERVICE	08.08.2025 5.30 PM
02	SSK/2025-26/SEO252	SERVICE	
03	SSK/2025-26/SEO253	SERVICE	
04	SSK/2025-26/INDO182	GOODS	
05	SSK/2025-26/INDO183	GOODS	

ಹೆಚ್ಚಿನ ಮಾಹಿತಿಗಾಗಿ ವೆಬ್‌ಸೈಟ್ ವೀಕ್ಷಿಸಿ : **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in** ಹಾಗೂ ಪೂರ್ಣ ವಿವರಗಳು ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಡಾಕ್ಯುಮೆಂಟ್‌ನಲ್ಲಿ ದೊರೆಯುತ್ತವೆ. ಸಂಪರ್ಕಿಸಬೇಕಾದ ಮೊಬೈಲ್ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ: **+91 9448999385** ಮತ್ತು **7829400192** ಗಳಿಗೆ ಸಂಪರ್ಕಿಸುವುದು.

ಸಹಿ/-
ಉಪನಿರ್ದೇಶಕರು (ಆಡಳಿತ) ಹಾಗೂ
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ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು ದಕ್ಷಿಣ ಜಿಲ್ಲೆ, ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು

ವಾ.ಸಾ.ಸಂ.ಇ/ವಾಪ್ರ/2043/ತಿರಡಿಸಾಯು/2025-26

KARNATAKA POWER TRANSMISSION CORPORATION LIMITED
(CIN: U40109KA1999SGC025521)
No : 952/GADAG/EE(E)/V.No.-/2025-26/1860 Date: 24.07.2025

TENDER NOTIFICATION

KPTCL invites following Office tenders pertaining to Operations Division, Gadag:

(1) Arresting Oil leakage of 20MVA 110/33KV Power Transformer T&R make transformer at 110KV S/s Bellatti. **(2)** Supplying of Stationery Materials and various registers to KPTCL Division Office Gadag. **(3)** Overhauling Kit as a spare for Pneumatic Drive Mechanism of 110KV Circuit Breakers at 110KV S/s Lakshmeshwar. **(4)** Supplying, Fixing, Testing & Commissioning of DCDB to 110KV S/s Lakshmeshwar. **(5)** Supplying of Maintenance Material at 110KV S/s Gadag. **(6)** Overhauling of ABB Make 33KV Circuit Breaker at 110KV S/s Gadag. **(7)** Replacement of Electromechanical Relay by Numerical Relays for 11KV F-3 Idle, F-4 Idle feeders at 110KV S/s Belavanki. **(8)** Supplying of Maintenance Material at 110KV S/s Sambapur Road Gadag. **(9)** Supplying of Maintenance Material at 110KV S/s Betageri.

Enquiry Details may be obtained from the office of the undersigned from **28.07.2025 at 10:00 Hrs** onwards. Due date: **11.08.2025 at 04:00 pm**

Sd/- Executive Engineer(Ele)
Operations Division, KPTCL,
Bapuji Nagara, Gadag - 582103

POSSESSION NOTICE

Whereas, the authorized officer of **Jana Small Finance Bank Limited** under the Securitization And Reconstruction of Financial Assets And Enforcement Of Security Interest Act, 2002 and in exercise of powers conferred under section 13 (2) read with rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002 issued **demand notices** to the borrower(s)/ Co-borrowers(s) calling upon the borrowers to repay the amount mentioned against the respective names together with interest thereon at the applicable rates as mentioned in the said notices within **60 days** from the date of receipt of the said notices, along with future interest as applicable incidental expenses, costs, charges etc. incurred till the date of payment and/or realisation.

Sr. No.	Loan No.	Borrower/ Co-Borrower/ Guarantor/ Mortgagor	13(2) Notice Date/ Outstanding Due (in Rs.) as on	Date/ Time & Type of Possession
1	46459410001189 & 46459630001492	1) Mr. Manohara B C, 2) Mr. M Chanrappa	08.05.2025 Rs.9,10,897.15 (Rupees Nine Lakh Ten Thousand Eight Hundred Ninety Seven and Fifteen Paisa Only) due as on 05-05-2025	Date: 22-07-2025 Time: 03:40 PM Symbolic Possession
	Description of the Property: All the piece and parcel of the property bearing No.87/3 142, Katha ID No.15030040110092070 3, situated at Bendiganahalli Village, Hosakote Taluk, Bangalore Rural District, presently comes under the limits of Dodda Aralagere Grama Panchayath and **Bounded by the: East by:** House of Sadananda, **West by:** BM Narayanappa, **North by:** Road, **South by:** Vacant Site of Erappa. Measuring East to West: 7.0140 Mtr, and North to South: 10.6680 Mtr, in all measuring 74.79 Sq.mtrs.			
2	46459430000637 & 46459410002077	1) Mr. Imran Khan A, 2) Mrs. Farheen Taj	13.05.2025 Rs.5,93,607.73 (Rupees Five Lakh Ninety Three Thousand Six Hundred Seven and Seventy Three Paisa Only) due as on 12-05-2025	Date: 22-07-2025 Time: 03:22 PM Symbolic Possession
	Description of the Property: All the piece and parcel of the immovable residential property bearing No.17, situated at Giddappahalli Village, Sulibel Hobli, Hosakote Taluk, Bangalore Rural District. Presently comes under the limits of Giddappanahalli Village Panchayath and **Bounded by the: East by:** Kaleel Khan, **West by:** Chotu Khan, **North by:** Kaleel Khan, **South by:** Road. Measuring 75X15.5 Feet.			
3	46459630000819 & 46459410000851	1) Mr. Rajappa P, 2) Mr. Chandra Shekar R	17.05.2025 Rs.13,41,568.12 (Rupees Thirteen Lakh Forty One Thousand Five Hundred Sixty Eight and Twelve Paisa Only) due as on 15-05-2025	Date: 22-07-2025 Time: 05:20 PM Symbolic Possession
	Description of the Property: All that piece and parcel of the immovable residential property bearing Site No.2, Municipal Katha No.5094/3/24442/2, situated at Shiva Garden, Hoskote Town, Bangalore Rural District and **Bounded on: East:** 10 feet Road, **West:** Vacant Site of K.M.Somaiah, **North:** Site No.3, **South:** Site No.1.			

Whereas the Borrower's/ Co-Borrower's/ Guarantor's/ Mortgagors, mentioned herein above have failed to repay the amounts due, notice is hereby given to the Borrower's mentioned herein above in particular and to the Public in general that the authorised officer of **Jana Small Finance Bank Limited** has **taken possession** of the properties/ secured assets described herein above in exercise of powers conferred on him under Section 13(4) of the said act read with Rule 8 of the said rules on the dates mentioned above. The Borrower's/ Co-Borrower's/ Guarantor's/ Mortgagors mentioned herein above in particular and the Public in general are hereby cautioned not to deal with the aforesaid properties/ Secured Assets and any dealings with the said properties/ Secured assets will be subject to the charge of **Jana Small Finance Bank Limited.**

Place: Bangalore Rural	Sd/- Authorised Officer,
Date: 28.07.2025	For Jana Small Finance Bank Limited

JANA SMALL FINANCE BANK (A Scheduled Commercial Bank)
Registered Office: The Fairway, Ground & First Floor, Survey No.10/1, 11/2 & 12/2B, Off Domlur, Koramangla Inner Ring Road, Next to EGL Business Park, Challaghatta, Bangalore-560071.

CITY UNION BANK LIMITED
Credit Recovery and Management Department
Administrative Office : No. 24-B, Gandhi Nagar, Kumbakonam - 612 001. **E-Mail id :** crmd@cityunionbank.in, **Ph :** 0435-2432322, **Fax :** 0435-2431746

POSSESSION NOTICE (Immovable Properties)

Whereas, the undersigned being the Authorised Officer of **City Union Bank Ltd.,** having its **Administrative Office** at **No.24-B, Gandhi Nagar, Kumbakonam - 612001** and one of the Branch Offices at **No.349, Komarala Towers, OTC Road, Chickpet Main Road, Bangaluru, Bengaluru Urban - 560053, Bengaluru-Sultanpet Branch** under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 and in exercise of the powers conferred under Section 13(2) & (12) read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 issued a Demand Notice Dated **15-04-2025** followed by Paper Publication Date **19-05-2025** calling upon the borrowers **No.1) M/s. De Zone Collection, 2nd Floor, Shop No.41, LUM Plaza D S Lane, Chickpet, Bangalore - 560053. Also At, M/s. De Zone Collection, No.26, 2nd Floor, D K Lane, Behind S S Jain, Chickpet Cross Bangalore - 560053. Also At, M/s. De Zone Collection, Shop No.9, Basement Floor, Sharma Complex, Chick Pet, Bangalore -560053, No.2) Mrs. Chouthi Devi, W/o. Bhundaram, No.11/5, C.K.C.Garden, Mission Road, Wilson Garden, Bangalore - 560027. Also At, Mrs. Chouthi Devi, W/o. Bhundaram, Flat No.301, 3rd Floor, Adviath Ashray, No.38/5 1st A Main, C.K.C.Garden, Doddabayalu Khane, Kasaba Hobli Sudhamanara, Bengaluru - 560027. Also At, Mrs. Chouthi Devi, W/o. Bhundaram, No.1045/750, Above Samsung Show Room, Choulyru Palya, Near G T World Mall, Magadi Road, Bangalore - 560023. No.3) Mr. Bhundaram, S/o. Joraramji, No.11/5, C.K.C.Garden, Mission Road, Wilson Garden, Bangalore - 560027. Also At, Mr. Bhundaram, S/o. Joraramji, Flat No.301, 3rd Floor, Adviath Ashray, No.38/5, 1st A Main, C.K.C.Garden, Doddabayalu Khane, Kasaba Hobli. Sudhamanara, Bengaluru - 560027. Also At, Mr. Bhundaram, S/o. Joraramji, No.1045/750, Above Samsung Show Room, Choulyru Palya, Near G T World Mall, Magadi Road, Bangalore – 560023** to repay the amount mentioned in the Notice being **Rs.10,44,132/- (Rupees Ten Lakh Forty Four Thousand One Hundred and Thirty Two Only)** within **60 days** from the date of the said Notice with subsequent interest thereon from **08-04-2025** with monthly rests.

The borrowers above named having failed to repay the amount despite the receipt of the above referred statutory notice, NOTICE is hereby given to the borrowers above named and the public in general that the undersigned has taken possession of the Properties described herein below in exercise of the powers conferred on him under Section 13(4) of the said Act read with Rule 8 of the said Rules on this 24th day of July 2025.

The borrowers above named in particular and the public in general are hereby cautioned not to deal with the properties and any dealings with the properties will be subject to the charge of City Union Bank Ltd. for an amount of **Rs.10,57,958/- (Rupees Ten Lakh Fifty Seven Thousand Nine Hundred and Fifty Eight only)** and interest thereon from **15-07-2025** till the repayment of entire dues.

The borrowers' attention is invited to provisions of Sub-section (8) of Section 13 of the Act, in respect of time available, to redeem the secured assets.

Note : That our **054-Bengaluru-Sultanpet Branch** has also extended Financial Assistance (SWAYAM GRIHA - SAL BR : 501312030012464) dated **25-10-2017** requested by No.3 of you for which No.2 of you stood as Co-obligant for the facility for a total amount of **Rs.35,00,000/-** at a ROI of **11.00%.** The same has been also classified as **NPA** on **06-02-2019** and the outstanding balance as on **14-07-2025** is **Rs.30,98,743/-** plus further interest and penal interest of **2.00%** with monthly rests to be charged from **15-07-2025** till the date of realization.

Immovable Properties Mortgaged to our Bank

Schedule - A : (Property Owned by Mr. Bhundaram, S/o. Joraramji)

All that Piece and Parcel of the immovable Property Bearing Site No.38/5, Located at Bangalore, Doddabayalu Khane, Kasaba Hobli, Bangalore, C K C Garden, Old Ward No.48, New No.118, Measuring : East to West (65 + 66)/2 Feet and North to South (40 + 28)/ 2 Feet. Totally Measuring about 2,227 Sq.Ft. and Bounded on the : East by : Remaining Portion of Property Belongs to Mrs.Lalana, North by : Road, South by : Property of Chennamma School, West by : Private.

Schedule - B

Flat Bearing No.301, in Third Floor of the Apartment Building Known as Advaith Ashray Having a Super Built-up Area of 853 Sq.Ft., Vitrified and Semi Vitrified Flooring, Doors and Windows made out of Sal Wood with all amenities, Containing 2 Bedrooms, together with 263 Sq.Ft. Undivided Share of Land Comprised in Schedule A Property With one Car Parking Basement.

Place : Bangalore, Date : 24-07-2025 **Authorised Officer**

Regd. Office : 149, T.S.R. (Big) Street, Kumbakonam, Thanjavur District, Tamil Nadu - 612 001, **CIN -** L65110TN1904PLC001287, **Telephone No.** 0435-2402322, **Fax :** 0435-2431746, **Website :** www.cityunionbank.com

BRIDGE AND ROOF CO. (INDIA) LTD.
(A GOVERNMENT OF INDIA ENTERPRISES)
CIN No. U27310WB1920GOI003601
"KANKARIA CENTRE", 4th & 5th FLOOR,
2/1, RUSSEL STREET, KOLKATA - 700071

NOTICE INVITING e-TENDER (e-NIT)

Online Single Percentage Rate Bid(s) / Offer(s) in two part system are invited from reputed, resourceful and experienced parties meeting prescribed qualifying criteria for the following works:

Sl. No.	Description of Work & Notice Inviting e-Tender (e-NIT) No.	Date of Publish in Website as well as CPP Portal	Last Date of Bid Submission (ON-LINE)
1.	"CONSTRUCTION OF 176 STUDENTS BOYS HOSTEL, 160 STUDENTS GIRLS HOSTEL, 3 EXAMINATION HALL, STRONG ROOM, SKILL LABORATORY AND CENTRAL RESEARCH LABORATORY BUILDING UNDER EWS SCHEME IN THE PREMISES OF V N GOVERNMENT MEDICAL COLLEGE AT YAVATMAL IN MAHARASHTRA" UNDER DIRECTORATE OF MEDICAL EDUCATION AND DRUGS DEPARTMENT, GOVERNMENT OF MAHARASHTRA. [B AND R / HO / DMER / 51273 / MAHARASHTRA / YAVATMAL / NIT / CW / 01]	28.07.2025	19.08.2025
2.	"CONSTRUCTION OF 150 CAPACITY BOYS HOSTEL, 150 CAPACITY GIRLS HOSTEL, LECTURE THEATRE & PRACTICAL LABORATORIES UNDER EWS SCHEME IN THE PREMISES OF GMC MIRAJ IN MAHARASHTRA UNDER DIRECTORATE OF MEDICAL EDUCATION AND RESEARCH, GOVT. OF MAHARASHTRA, MUMBAI." B AND R / HO / DMER / 51275 / MAHARASHTRA / MIRAJ / NIT / CW / 01]	28.07.2025	18.08.2025

Interested Bidder(s) will have to be enrolled & registered with the Government e-Procurement System; through logging on to https://eprocure.gov.in.

Addendum / Corrigendum, if any, shall be hosted in Company's Website: www.bridgeroof.co.in and CPP portal: https://eprocure.gov.in only.

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BELAGAVI INSTITUTE OF MEDICAL SCIENCES
(Autonomous Medical Institution)
Dr. B. R. Amedkar Road, Belagavi - 590 001.(Hospital) Phone : 0831-2420320
Fax : 0831-2420173, (College) Phone : 0831-2421464. Fax : 0831-2403126,
E-Mail: belgaum.bims@gmail.com Website : www. bimsbelgaum.org

No. : B.I.M.S./G.N.L.-02/CR//2025-26 Date : 25-07-2025

TENDER NOTIFICATION

The Chief Administrative Officer, Belagavi Institute of Medical Sciences Belagavi hereby invites tenders under KPP Portal System for Providing Services of Nursing Officers on Outsource **Basis, Bio Medical Waste Management Service, Tele Radiology Services and AMC Tender for Desktop Computers and Printers etc to BIMS Belagavi** as per K.T.P.P. Act 1999 & Rules 2000 in Two Cover System there under:

Sl. No.	Tender Notification	Description of Tender	Tender Value (Approximate) (Rs. In Lakhs)	Downloading of Tender Document
01	BIMS//TENDER/SSH/ CR-4/2025-26 DATE : 01-08-2025	Tender Invitation for Providing Services of Nursing Officers on Outsource Basis to Super Speciality Hospital, BIMS, Belagavi.	Rs. 91.00 Lakhs	K.P.P. Portal
02	BIMS/GNL/BWM TENDER/22/2025-26 DATE : 01-08-2025	Collection, Transportation, Segregation Disposal of Bio Medical Waste Generated at BIMS, Belagavi.	Rs. 20.00 Lakhs	
03	BIMS/GNL/ TELERADIOLOG/ CR-14/2025-26 DATE : 28-07-2025	Tender for Tele Radiology Services to BIMS, Belagavi.	Rs. 40.00 Lakhs	
04	BIMS/SUP-2/AMC/ CR-23/2025-26 DATE : 01-08-2025	AMC Tender for Desktop Computers, Printers Scaners, Xerox Machines and CCTV Cameras in BIMS, Belagavi.	Rs. 10.00 Lakhs	

The Tenderers Registered under Karnataka Public Procurement Portal can refer Government of Karnataka KPP Portal **Website : https\\www.kppp.karnataka.gov.in** to get detailed information about the tender & details of EMD & Security Deposit or can contact the **Director BIMS Belagavi** in the working hours to get the information.

Tender inviting authority, Tender Accepting Authority has got powers to cancel any tender or all tenders without assigning any reason.

Sd/- Chief Administrative Officer,
Belagavi Institute of Medical Sciences, Belagavi.

DIPR/Belagavi/727/Manipal/2025-26

FEDBANK FINANCIAL SERVICES LTD. AUCTION NOTICE

This is to inform the public at large, that FEDBANK FINANCIAL SERVICES LTD., has decided to conduct Auction of Gold ornaments belonging to accounts (mentioned below) which have become overdue or which have defaults or margin breach customers. The Auction would be held at respective Branches specified below on **Friday 08-08-2025 between 10.00 a.m. to 12.00 p.m.** This would continue till the auction process is over.

Arakalgud 9148906874 **FEDGL0036**0014911, 0014955, 0015042 **Arasikere** 8105953524 **FEDGL0414**0005859 **BELGAUM** 9538616695 **FEDGL0136**0008059 **BELUR** 8147367229 **FEDGL0159**0012655, 0012656, 0012659, 0012661, 0012668, 0012676, 0012688, 0012692, 0012698, 0012704, 0012712 **BOMMANAHALLI** 8073227944 **FEDGL0014**0008761, 0008762, 0008773, 0008806 **BTM LAYOUT** 8310474495 **FEDGL0003**0007593 **BYADGI** 9538581496 **FEDGL0051**0013829, 0013831, 0013846, 0013886 **Car Street Bellary** 9480745620 **FEDGL0092**0005611, 0005618 **CHENRAYAPATNA** 8762027472 **FEDGL0158**0024875, 0024878 **Gadag** 9591003594 **FEDGL0420**0006359 **Gubbi** 9738787715 **FEDGL0046**0018602, 0018619, 0018629, 0018691, 0018697, 0018736, 0018774 **Gundalpete** 9448914215 **FEDGL0383**0005770 **H D Kote** 9663203232 **FEDGL0058**0011915 **Hagaribommanhalli** 8105262789 **FEDGL0100**0013036 **HANSUR** 9741515847 **FEDGL0162**0018837 **Harappanahalli** 9902482174 **FEDGL0104**0011855 **HARIHAR** 9741874797 **FEDGL0022**0016102 **HENNUR** 7899330568 **FEDGL0015**0005750, 0005757, 0005758 **Holenarsipura** 9632040538 **FEDGL0059**0025199, 0025249 **Hospet** 9742731312 **FEDGL0099**0010207, 0010280 **K R NAGAR** 6364104885 **FEDGL0161**0014021 **K R PURAM** 8105579334 **FEDGL0012**0015007 **K R ROAD** 9886384815 **FEDGL0037**0007118 **Kadur** 9611025162 **FEDGL0487**0005007 **Kampli** 8147494652 **FEDGL0095**0010203, 0010221, 0010232, 0010236, 0010276, 0010285, 0010293 **Kudligi** 9538360732 **FEDGL0404**0007906, 0007910, 0007911, 0007912, 0007930, 0007933, 0007963, 0007970, 0008004, 0008005, 0008016, 0008017 **FEDBD0404**0000338 **Kunigal** 9900424323 **FEDGL0121**0012616, 0012625, 0012629, 0012660 **Madhugiri** 8152960236 **FEDGL0393**0010557, 0010571, 0010693 **Malebennur** 7975252277 **FEDGL0062**0013318, 0013321, 0013323 **MANDYA** 9739446331 **FEDGL0163**0009716, 0009730, 0009743 **Mundargi** 9845291147 **FEDGL0064**0011359, 0011366, 0011416, 0011430, 0011465, 0011483, 0011485, 0011486, 0011488, 0011490, 0011496, 0011499, 0011504 **NANJANGODE** 8050883842 **FEDGL0160**0016718, 0016728 **Pavagada** 9779477757 **FEDGL0377**0011986, 0011989, 0011993, 0012003, 0012006, 0012062, 0012080, 0012107, 0012135, 0012140, 0012144, 0012176, 0012178, 0012189, 0012212 **RAMANAGARA** 9731505830 **FEDGL0180**0026584, 0026585, 0026667, 0026679 **RAMASWAMY CIRCLE** 9742314015 **FEDGL0173**0008480 **RANEBENNUR** 9916970020 **FEDGL0232**0012777, 0012778, 0012806, 0012818, 0012820 **Sindhanur** 8050595404 **FEDGL0461**0004639, 0004651, 0004681, 0004699, 0004707 **FEDBD0461**0000147 **Sira** 7337625506 **FEDGL0376**0012676, 0012765, 0012773 **SIRSI** 9916317807 **FEDGL0193**0008668

Change in Venue or Date, if any will be displayed on our Website www.fedfina.com. All bidders participating will be intimated subsequently with respect to acceptance or rejection of bids submitted by them. Customer who want to release their ornaments shall visit at the base branch wherein the ornaments were pledged by the customer or contact at the number mentioned above on/or before 07-08-2025 subject to the terms and condition applicable.

Auction will be conducted at respective branches, in case the auction does not get completed on the given date due to any reasons, the auction in respect thereto shall be conducted on subsequent working days at district level branch after displaying the details on our Website. No further communication shall be issued in this regard.

Dated : 28-07-2025 **For, sd/- Authorised Signatory**
Place : Karnataka **Fedbank Financial Services Ltd.,**

₹2.22 L CR The combined market valuation of 6 of the top-10 most valued firms diminished in last week

Ways to invest in gold that hit record highs

Investing in physical gold, which has scaled 26 new all-time highs in H1 2025, comes with its own limitations

BENN KOCHUVEEDAN @ MUMBAI

GOLD, which has never ceased to be the safe-haven asset so far, has gained 26% in the first half of 2025 becoming one of the top-performing major asset classes. The precious metal has scaled 26 new all-time highs during this period in global markets—including once crossing the sensitive ₹1 lakh/10 grams mark in the domestic markets when the metal crossed $3,500/ounce-mark in the third week of April.

This 26 new life-time highs came in after breaking through a 40-new-record streak in 2024 when it had rallied 24% over a 22% rally in the previous year. **What makes the metal so alluring to investors?** There are many reasons, with the shining allure it has for women as a jewellery (our households are sitting over close to 26,000 tonnes of gold in jewellery alone) and its ready fungibility/encahsability when in need of ready cash being the top reasons for its allurement.

Let's look at some of the best ways to invest in this metal, even though investment experts recommend allocating only a small portion (5–10%) of your portfolio to precious metals.

According to the World Gold Council, a combination of a weaker US dollar, range-bound interest rates and a highly uncertain geo-economic environment has resulted in strong investment demand for gold. Another equally important driver is the continuing central bank demands led by the Reserve Bank and the central bank of China, among others.

The council sees at least 5% more spike in prices during the course of the year and 10-

15% more if current volatile economic conditions deteriorate further exacerbating stagflationary pressures—that's the metal reaching $3,840/ounce by end December and translating into an annual return of 40%. But many Wall Street watchers have predicted the metal hitting the $4,000/ounce mark by December.

Experts recommend allocating only a small portion, say 5–10% of your investment portfolio to precious metals, including silver.

Gold Exchange Traded Funds

Given that no new SGBs (sovereign gold bonds) are being issued, the best option available to own non-physical gold is to go in for gold ETFs which track the domestic physical prices of the metal. Each gold ETF unit represents the physical gold, and is based on gold prices and invests in physical bullion. One gold ETF unit equals 1 gram of gold, backed by high-purity physical metal.

Why ETFs? Because they are safe and have higher liquidity as they are listed and are traded every day. The expense ratio in gold ETFs is also lower than that of gold MFs. On the negative side, since ETFs track the price of gold, they are subject to volatility. To invest in an ETF, one needs to have a demat account. There are entry and exit loads and the investor has to pay brokerage every time.

Gold Mutual Funds

Gold mutual funds are open-ended funds that invest in the units of a gold ETF with the ultimate goal of creating wealth using the potential of gold as a commodity. Gold MF units are priced differently-- in the form of net asset value disclosed at the end of the trading session—as opposed to gold ETFs which are linked to physical prices.

Since gold MFs are actively managed, they have the potential to outperform the metal price over time. They also offer the convenience of investing through a fund house.

IN CONVERSATION

G SRINIVASAN
MD and CEO, Galaxy Health Insurance

'Need a healthcare regulator to oversee pricing & practices'

AFTER having spent over four decades in insurance, **G Srinivasan** has taken on a new challenge as MD and CEO of Galaxy Health Insurance, a Chennai-based standalone health insurer backed by the TVS Group and Star Health founder V Jagannathan. Srinivasan, former CMD of United India and New India Assurance, spoke to **C Shivakumar** & **Anto T Joseph** of TNIE about Galaxy's strategies, targets, market dynamics, and challenges. Edited excerpts:

What led to the launch of Galaxy Health Insurance?
The idea was spearheaded by the TVS family and V Jagannathan, who built Star Health into a market leader. Both bring immense credibility. They believed there is still a huge gap in health insurance. Around 40% of India's population remains uninsured, and among those insured, many are underinsured. For instance, a ₹5 lakh cover isn't enough anymore when health care costs are skyrocketing. A short hospital stay can wipe it out.

We want to address this in four ways -- by improving penetration in underinsured regions; by designing practical, need-based products; by focusing on wellness; and by ensuring fair and full claim settlement.

How quickly have you scaled up since launch?
The company was set up in March 2024. We got our license in under 50 days. By October, we issued our first policy. In just 8–9 months, we have expanded to 65 offices across eight states of Tamil Nadu, Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, Odisha, West Bengal, Assam, and Uttar Pradesh. At present, we have 350 employees, 9,000 agents, and have already covered around one lakh lives. Our goal this year is to reach ₹200 crore in premium.

What is your product strategy?
So far, we have launched eight products. Galaxy Promise, our flagship, comes in three variants. Galaxy Marvel is a base plan with add-ons, while our Top-Up product allows customers to enhance coverage at low cost. We have tailored plans for senior citizens, NBFC customers, and group clients. Disease-specific plans for cancer, cardiac care, and diabetes are on the drawing board.

We are also exploring bite-sized covers like personal accident and critical illness. It is essential to make insurance accessible for underserved populations

We are targeting 90% of our business from retail. For young buyers, we offer a standout feature — if there are no claims, the premium remains constant till age 55. That is rare in this market and encourages early adoption.

Are micro-insurance products part of your roadmap?
Absolutely. We are rolling out a rural-focused plan in the next 2–3 months. It will be affordable and cater to people using small nursing homes. We are also exploring bite-sized covers like personal accident and critical illness, especially through our corporate agency partners. It is essential to make insurance accessible for underserved populations.

Why are premiums rising and what is the way forward?
Healthcare costs are rising because there is no regulation. Unlike other sectors, there is no central authority controlling hospital rates or standardising treatment protocols. Health is split between the Centre and states, creating gaps. The Central government has developed a National Claims Exchange for transparent claims processing. All insurers are on board, but only a few hospitals have joined. Beyond tech, we need a healthcare regulator, someone to oversee pricing and practices. Without that, healthcare costs will rise and consequently premiums will continue to rise, and customers will suffer.

How is Galaxy Health handling claims?
Claims are a pain point for many, but we have made it our strength. Our products cover even consumables—often excluded elsewhere—so customers get nearly 100% of their expenses reimbursed. In the last 7–8 months, we have settled 200–250 claims with full transparency. We support the regulator's move to allow cashless claims even at non-network hospitals.

MONEY-WISE

BUILDING A WEALTH CREATING MINDSET

FINANCIAL ADVICE

PV SUBRAMANYAM
writes at www.subramoney.com and has authored the best seller 'Retire Rich - Invest ₹40 a day'

TO create wealth the first step is Building a wealth-creating mindset. How to create that mindset? It involves cultivating habits, attitudes, and strategies that prioritise long-term financial growth. Here are practical steps to develop this mindset, tailored to be concise yet comprehensive:

- **Adopt a growth mindset:** Believe wealth is achievable through learning and effort. Study successful investors like Warren Buffett or entrepreneurs like Elon Musk, Mukesh Ambani to understand their decision-making. Read books like Think and Grow Rich by Napoleon Hill or The Millionaire Next Door by Thomas J. Stanley to reframe your thinking.
- **Set clear financial goals:** Define specific, measurable objectives, like saving ₹1,000,000 in 10 years or generating ₹50,000 in passive income annually. Break these into actionable steps, such as saving ₹5000 monthly or investing 10% of your income.
- **Prioritise financial education:** Learn about budgeting, investing, and debt management. Start with basics like compound interest and diversification. Use free resources like Investopedia, podcasts, or follow credible X accounts for tips. Given your past interest in saving versus investing, focus on understanding how disciplined saving fuels investment opportunities. If you are investing in Equities for the first time in your family, ensure that they understand standard deviation of equity investing!
- **Embrace delayed gratification:** Shift from short-term spending to long-term gains. For example, instead of buying a ₹10,000 gadget, invest that money in a low-cost index fund. Historically, the Index averages 12-15% annual returns!
- **Build multiple income streams:** Relying solely on a salary limits wealth. Explore side hustles, real estate, or dividend-paying stocks. For instance, renting out a property can generate steady cash flow, as seen in markets like Bengaluru, where rental yields average 3-5%. However, understand that risks are hidden in all wealth creating transactions.
- **Manage risk wisely:** Wealth creation involves calculated risks. Diversify investments across stocks, bonds, and real estate to mitigate losses. Avoid get-rich-quick schemes; scams cost Americans ₹3.7 billion in 2022, per the FTC.
- **Surround yourself with like-minded people:** Join financial discussion groups on X or local investment clubs.
- **Track and optimise spending:** Use apps or simple excel sheets to monitor expenses. Cut unnecessary costs, which can save ₹20,000-₹30,000 annually for reinvestment.
- **Stay disciplined and patient:** Wealth builds over time. Automate savings and investments to avoid emotional decisions. For example, setting up a monthly SIP in a mutual fund ensures consistency. You also won't need to think about investing every month. This reduces fatigue.
- **Cultivate resilience:** Market downturns or setbacks are inevitable. Learn from mistakes, like over-leveraging in stocks, and adjust strategies.

MONEY MATTERS

YOUR RELATIONSHIP WITH INFLATION MATTERS

FINANCIAL KNOWLEDGE

RAJAS KELKAR
(The author is editor-in-chief at www.moneyminute.in)

YOUR expectation of inflation matters. It is your view that plays a significant role in determining borrowing rates. The Monetary Policy Committee of the Reserve Bank of India takes note of the regular household inflation expectations surveys conducted by its field team. However, there is no harmony in the way households view inflation. A study published in the latest RBI monthly bulletin explains the trend in household inflation expectations. It reveals that men aged 45 and above, as well as self-employed and daily workers who tend to operate on variable incomes, usually exhibit higher inflation expectations. That is primarily because of access to real-time prices for input costs incurred or labour paid.

However, if you are a salaried individual or a young person, the RBI analysis reveals that your social and financial network influences your perception of inflation. That means your reading habits on financial matters, whether through newspapers or social media, impact the way you view the inflation rate. Macroeconomic shocks, such as volatility in food prices, drive household views on inflation over the year ahead. There are emotions and biases involved in forming that view, too, the study finds.

The RBI attaches considerable significance to your expectations regarding inflation. Your decision to adjust your spending has a significant impact on the economy's consumption.

Consumption accounts for two-thirds of India's gross domestic product. If you cut your spending due to inflation fears, it reduces the demand for goods and services and could potentially induce a slowdown. While the economic growth momentum is not the primary responsibility of the RBI, the future trend in inflation matters for interest rates. If your fears of inflation are high, interest rates are likely to remain high. The latest report shows a declining trend in the household inflation expectations.

India Ratings, an affiliate of the global ratings agency FITCH, expects retail inflation to average 3% in 2025-26. That is much lower than even the Reserve Bank of India's forecast of 3.7% for 2025-26. The agency expects the RBI to continue lowering borrowing rates.

Despite all the uncertainty, global commodity prices remain stable, indicating a benign trend ahead. The progress of the monsoon in the country is regular, which is good news for food grain and vegetable production and prices. The government has also resorted to adjusting imports and exports of key food products in situations of a price surge.

What it means

If you are a risk-averse investor looking at fixed income investments, you may want to consider fixed deposits. Rates are likely to trend down. You may want to allocate more resources to active debt mutual funds, where fund managers can generate a positive return in the short term as repo rates fall. For those who invest in equity markets, it is essential to know that when interest rates trend downwards, equity prices tend to become more attractive.

As inflation eases and interest rates decline, companies can further strengthen their balance sheets. The trend in the stock market is linked to profit growth. As of 2025, share prices have remained flat, having rallied significantly in anticipation of the present profits. Going forward, profit growth is likely to remain muted, according to most analysts. The urban demand remains tepid despite lower inflation, according to companies announcing quarterly financial results and focusing on the Indian consumer market.

A low-inflation and interest-rate regime is a good time to assess your savings and investments. You must discuss this with your financial advisor. If you do not have one, it may be a good time to find one. Your asset allocation plan requires you to understand your risk tolerance and make an appropriate allocation to equity assets. When interest rates are low, the returns on fixed deposits will tend to decline.

Vietnamese EV maker VinFast opens first showroom in India

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU
@ New Delhi

VinFast Auto India, the Indian subsidiary of Vietnam-based EV manufacturer VinFast, opened its first India showroom in Surat, Gujarat. This inauguration marks a significant milestone in the company's retail journey in the country. The outlet serves as the brand's physical touchpoint in India, underscoring VinFast's long-term commitment to establishing a strong, customer-centric electric mobility ecosystem.

The dealership 'VinFast Surat' is promoted by the Chandan Car. Located in Piplod, Surat, the dealership will serve as a one-stop destination for VinFast's prospective buyers. Spanning across 3,000 Sq ft, the

showroom will showcase VinFast's upcoming range of premium electric SUVs - VF 6 and VF 7. The company aims to launch 35 dealerships by year-end, across 27+ cities. VinFast officially opened pre-bookings for its premium electric SUVs, the VF 6 and VF 7 on July 15, 2025. Customers can now book their preferred VinFast premium electric SUV either at the exclusive showrooms or through the official website, VinFastAuto.in, with a fully refundable booking amount of ₹21,000.

The vehicles will be locally assembled at VinFast's upcoming factory in Thoothukudi, Tamil Nadu. "The first VinFast Showroom in Surat, Gujarat is a symbol of our deep commitment to India. We are excited to bring the VinFast experience closer to Indian consumers. With this dealership in Gujarat, we aim to offer not just electric vehicles, but a complete ownership journey built on quality, trust, and service excellence," Pham Sanh Chau, CEO, VinFast Asia, said.

ED raids have concluded: Anil Ambani Group

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU @ New Delhi

THE three-day search and seizure operations conducted by the Enforcement Directorate on premises of Anil Ambani-owned Reliance Group concluded on Saturday. The raids were in connection with a loan fraud case worth over ₹3,000 crore involving Anil Ambani's group of companies and Yes Bank.

In a statement issued on Sunday, the group said that the company and all its officials have fully cooperated and will continue to cooperate with the authority.

"Action by ED has no impact on the business operations, financial performance, shareholders, employees, or any other stakeholders of the Company," said the company.

IPO frenzy: 14 new public issues and 12 listings scheduled for this week

BENN KOCHUVEEDAN @MUMBAI

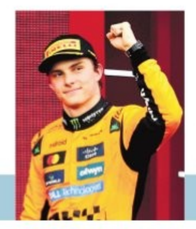
AS July—the first half of which had set a six-year record of being the busiest IPO month mopping up over ₹36,000 crore--winds downs, companies are hitting the Dalal Street like there is no tomorrow--- the next seven days will see as many as 14 companies joining the IPO frenzy, raising more than ₹ 7,300 crore, including ₹7,008 crore by five mainboard IPOs. That's almost three issues a day, as the market week is only five days. The five-day week beginning July 28 is also set to be among the busiest one for the IPO market in a long time, in terms of listing as well with a dozen companies scheduled for market debut.

The week opens with the initial public offerings of the

small businesses focused non-bank Laxmi India Finance and the largest video security & surveillance products maker Aditya Infotech. Both are mainboard segment and open for subscription on July 29.

Laxmi Finance has fixed a price band at ₹150-158 for its ₹ 254-crore issue, while Aditya Infotech that sells its wares under the label of CP Plus, is raising ₹1,300 crore at a price-band of ₹640-675. Then comes the much-awaited National Securities Depository (NSDL) ₹4,011 crore issue that will be only an OFS and opens on July 30. The largest depository company has set ₹760-800 as the price band, which is almost 28% discount to the grey market price of over ₹1,100. IDBI Bank, the National Stock Exchange, and the UTI-promoted market infrastructure institution NSDL is looking at mobilising ₹4,011.60 crore via the OFS necessitated by the regulatory mandate of not owning more than 15% in a market making company. The same day will also see the ₹792-crore issue of the Mumbai-based real estate firm Sri Lotus Developers & Realty at a price band of ₹140-150 apiece.

Piastri beats teammate Norris to win Belgian GP



Oscar Piastri beat his McLaren teammate and title rival Lando Norris to win Formula 1's Belgian Grand Prix on Sunday after heavy rain delayed the start. Charles Leclerc was third for Ferrari after he kept Red Bull's Max Verstappen behind him all race. On Saturday, Verstappen took the sprint win.

Gill leads from the front with a century; Jadeja & Washington follow up with hundreds as visitors draw fourth Test against England in Manchester

INDIA HOLD TRAFFORD

Express in England
FIROZ MIRZA
@MANCHESTER

AS the players walked off the field for lunch on Day Five at Old Trafford, India were in a spot of bother. They had just lost their captain and centurion Shubman Gill, the scoreboard read 223/4 with still 88 runs behind the hosts. Not long before, they had lost already lost the other set batter in KL Rahul and now, the burden was on Washington Sundar and Ravindra Jadeja to put their heads down and dig the team out of the hole.

Jadeja almost did that at Lord's only to watch Mohammed Siraj losing his wicket in an unfortunate manner a few days ago. And that was not the first time he had endured such a heartbreak in England. Five years ago, at the same venue, he and former captain MS Dhoni fell short in the ODI World Cup semifinal against New Zealand despite reaching close from a position of no hope.

This time, however, he was not going to let it repeat. With Washington for company, he dug deep to frustrate England's bowling attack. Be it their pace spearhead Jofra Archer or their inspiring captain Ben Stokes, no one can breach the duo's defence. They gave up all their aggressive instincts and instead focussed on playing the ball on its merit. The defensive approach adopted by the duo meant India scored 55 runs in 21 overs between lunch and drinks at 2.61 runs per over.

Once they negotiated the testing period, the Indian batters broke free a few overs before the tea and targetted Stokes, whose ruthless spell in the morning raised hope of his team's win in the match. Before that over, third of Stokes' second spell and 11th overall, India were trailing by 13 runs. Washington slammed the England captain's first two balls for a six and a four before Jadeja joined the party by hitting a four to complete his fifty. By the time the tea was called, India have reached 322/4 with Washington and Jadeja unbeaten on 57 and 53 runs, respectively.

Stokes tried unconventional fielding positions, packing the batters' leg side in his desperate attempt for wickets. At one stage when spinner Liam Dawson was bowling, he had fielders at short mid wicket, short square leg, silly mid on, wide leg slip as well as silly point. Wicketkeeper Jamie Smith also stood up to Chris Woakes for a brief period but it all went in vain. Such was the toil that Stokes was more than happy to shake hands before the final hour. However, Jadeja was unbeaten on 89 and Washington playing on 80 and they were not ready to walk off without getting their centuries.

Seemingly unhappy with the move, Stokes employed part-timer Harry Brook from one end, who at times looked like he was just rolling his arm over in formality. Both Indian batters did not mind that one bit as Jadeja completed his hundred, first and soon Washington followed. Soon after the Tamil Nadu all-rounder got to his maiden Test hundred, hands were shaken for one last time as the Indian duo walked off the field head held high.

India captain Gill was a happy man. "Extremely pleased with the batting, under pressure the last couple of days, we responded after losing those two early wickets, never easy ... It's all about taking the Day Five wicket out of the equation, every ball is an event, take it ball by ball and take it as deep as possible," he said at the post-match presentaion. When asked about Jadeja and Washington continuing, he said: "It was up to the boys in the middle, they batted brilliantly, in the 90s, they deserved the centuries."

Earlier, Stokes gave England a bright start by scalping the wicket of Rahul. The gritty pacer did all these while visibly in pain as he was seen holding his right hip and rubbing his right shoulder frequently. Braving injury, Stokes bowled eight overs on a trot claiming a wicket and giving away just 12 runs. After the wicket, Stokes was all pumped in and bowled a rising delivery in his next over that angled in and hit top of Gill's right thumb before rebounding to his helmet. Stokes was continuously angling in the bowl for the right-hand batter from the rough patches, which have been created over the past four days. Gill and Washington made sure India went into drinks without any further hiccups. They were 193/3 in 76 overs at drinks, scoring 19 runs from the first 13 overs of the day.

England took the new ball after 80 overs with Chris Woakes replacing Stokes. Jofra Archer was brought in from the other end in place of Dawson. The India captain completed his century with a single of Woakes in the 83rd over. He broke Virat Kohli's record of three away centuries as a captain to become the first India skipper to slam four centuries in a Test series and set the platform for Jadeja and Washington to build on. Now, India go to The Oval with a 1-2 scoreline and have a chance at levelling the series in the fifth Test.

MOST NUMBER OF BALLS FACED BY IND IN 3RD/4TH INNINGS SINCE 2000

Balls faced	Against	Year	Venue
1083	New Zealand	2009	Napier
1082	Australia	2001	Kolkata
954	West Indies	2002	Kolkata
914	West Indies	2006	Antigua
892	England	2021	The Oval
864	England	2025	Manchester
818	Australia	2024	Perth

SCOREBOARD

India 1st innings: 358; **England 1st innings**: 669; **India 2nd innings (O/N 174/2 in 63 ovs):** Rahul lbw b Stokes 90, Gill c Smith b Archer 103, Washington not out 101, Jadeja not out 107; **Extras:** (b14, lb2, nb6, w2) 24; **Total (For 4 wkts in 143 ovs): 425**; **FoW**: 188-3, 222-4; **Bowling:** Woakes 23-4-67-2, Archer 23-3-78-1, Carse 17-3-44-0, Dawson 47-11-95-0, Root 19-2-68-0, Stokes 11-2-33-1, Brook 3-0-24-0.

(Clockwise) Ravindra Jadeja & Washington Sundar shake hands with teammates after drawing the match; Shubman Gill celebrates his century | PTI/AFP

4

Shubman Gill became the third captain after Don Bradman and Sunil Gavaskar to score four hundreds in a Test series

Washington and Jadeja deserved the hundreds: Gambhir

FIROZ MIRZA @ Manchester

INDIA head coach Gautam Gambhir believed Ravindra Jadeja and Washington Sundar deserved hundreds backing the decision to continue playing even after England offered for a draw. English players looked like they were not happy with the move and the same was visible when they decided to bring in Harry Brook to roll his arm over.

"If someone is batting on 90 and the other one is batting on 85, wouldn't they deserve a hundred?" Gambhir said during the post-match press conference on Sunday. He even questioned whether England would have walked off if someone from their side would have been batting on 90 or 85. "If someone has the opportunity to get his first Test hundred, wouldn't you allow him to do it? They weathered the storm. It's up to them. That is, if they want to play that way, then it's up to them. I've got nothing more to say. I think both those guys deserved a hundred and fortunately they got it," he added.

Gambhir did not give any clarity on Bumrah's availability for the last Test starting at the Oval on July 31. He said no decision has been made in this regard yet. Speaking on Shubman Gill and his growth as a batter during the ongoing series, he said, "First of all, no one has any doubt on Shubman's talent. Those who had a doubt, they only know how to talk about cricket, not understand it. Because some people take time to blossom in international cricket. And there is no surprise in this dressing room that Shubman has done on this tour. And honestly, even if he hadn't done it, no one had a doubt on his talent. Because those who understand cricket, they know what kind of talent Shubman has. And the important thing is that he is living up to his expectations, his own talent, and more importantly, the pressure of the captaincy, the burden and pressure of the captaincy."

Gambhir once again asserted that he believes in results and currently the team is 1-2 down in the series and will try to make it 2-2 in the last match. He also confirmed that injured wicketkeeper-batter Rishabh Pant has been ruled out of the series due to the right broken foot adding further that all pacers are fit to play. "Rishabh, already it's been declared that he's out of the series. Any amount of praise is not enough for him. Especially batting with a broken foot. Not many people have done that in the past. I think the generations to come will talk about this. But again, he's an important member of the Test side and I hope he recovers quickly and comes back quickly and tries and delivers again for us. Also all the fast bowlers are fit."

Gambhir was all praise for Washington, who not only dug deep to help India draw the match but also completed his maiden Test century. "I think Washington himself was in really good form as well. It's just that sometimes when you're playing seven or seven, eight batters, I think sometimes it's difficult to accommodate someone

He said the draw here in Manchester will give the team a psychological edge over their opponents going into the last match of the series. "Anything that you do in these conditions, when you're put under pressure and you come out of those pressure moments, it is always a great feeling. And it just ends up giving a lot of confidence in the dressing room as well. And I'm sure, I think going into Oval, I think we will be high on confidence. But we can't take anything for granted. I think it's going to be a new game."

> *Honestly, it doesn't matter how many runs you've scored in the past. Every time you walk wearing the whites of the country, there are some jitters. That tells how much I care playing for the country and how much I love this game. Everytime I bat, I want to play my best and I want to enjoy my batting as much as I can.* – Shubman Gill

Tilak Varma to lead South Zone in Duleep Trophy

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE

INDIA batter N Tilak Varma was on Sunday named as the South Zone captain in the season-opening Duleep Trophy to be held in Bengaluru next month. The 22-year-old Tilak, who has played four ODIs and 25 T20Is, was in fine touch for Hampshire recently, smashing 100, 56, 47 and 112 in four innings for the English county side.

Four players from Kerala namely Mohammed Azharuddeen, who will be Tilak's deputy, MD Nidheesh, Basil NP and Salman Nizar found place in the 16-member squad. Tamil Nadu batter Narayan Jagadeesan, senior left-arm spinner R Sai Kishore and middle-order batter Devdutt Padikkal too are in the squad. This year the Duleep Trophy will return to the Zonal format between zonal six teams.

South Zone squad: T Varma (C) MAzharuddeen (VC), T Agarwal, D Padikkal, M Kale, S Nizar, N Jagadeesan, T. Vijay (Andhra), R Sai Kishore, T Thyagarajan, V Vijaykumar, MD Nidheesh, R Bhui, Basil NP, G Singh, S Kauthankar.
Stand-by: M Redkar, R Smaran, A Sharma, Edhen A T, A Siddarth, S Rasheed.

Another draw takes final to tie-breaker

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ Chennai

ACTION was in short supply as Koneru Humpy and Divya Deshmukh played out an unadventurous draw in the second round of the women's World Cup final at Batumi on Sunday. The final will now be decided on tie-breaks in a shorter time control on Monday. Within the larger context, both players have assured themselves a spot in next year's women's Candidates but there's still a lot riding in this particular match.

For starters, Divya, who didn't have a single GM norm coming into the tournament, will become India's fourth woman GM if she wins the title. This is a big tournament and moment for Humpy too. Large parts of her 2024 was a write off for multiple reasons even if she did finish joint second in that edition of the Candidates. She admitted to thinking about quitting the game but came roaring back to win the World Rapids to ring in the new year.

So it wasn't a surprise to see her opt for the very solid Zukertort Opening (1. Nf3 before developing the e pawn).

Divya Deshmukh and Konery Humpy in action on Sunday | FIDE/ ANNA SHTOURMAN

HOW THE GAME WAS PLAYED

White: Koneru Humpy
Black: Divya Deshmukh

With two draws, the final will be settled in tie-breaks to be played on Monday

1. Nf3 d5	8 d4 Bg4	15 Rfe1 Qd7	21 Qf4 Ne4	28 Qc7 Qd5
2 e3 Nf6	9 Be2 Bxf3	16 h3 h6	22 Bxe4 dxe4	29 Bb6 Nc6
3 c4 e6	10 Bxf3 cxd4	17 Rac1 Rxe1+	23 d5 Qxd5	30 Qxb7 Qd1+
4 Nc3 a6	11 exd4 Bb4	18 Rxe1 Re8	24 Qg4 g6	31 Kh2 Qd6+
5 b3 c5	12 O-O Bxc3	19 Rxe8+ Qxe8	25 Qc8+ Nd8	32 Kg1 Qd1+
6 Bb2 Nc6	13 Bxc3 O-O		26 Qb8 Qg5	33 Kh2 Qd6+
7 cxd5 exd5	14 Qd3 Re8	20 Qf5 Qe6	27 Bd4 Kh7	34 Kg1 Qd1+

EXPRESS READ

Swimmers Aryan & Likhith fall short

SINGAPORE: Aryan Nehra fell short of qualifying for the final, while SP Likhith failed to make the semifinals in their respective events at the World Aquatics Championships. Nehra, competing in the men's 400m freestyle, finished 37th overall with a time of 4:00.39s. Likhith finished 40th overall in the men's 100m breaststroke event.

Diksha moves to 48th in Scotland Open

NORTH AYSHIRE: Indian golfer Diksha Dagar improved slightly in the third round of the 2025 ISPS HANDA Women's Scottish Open as she moved up 11 spots to tied-48th on day 3 at the Dundonald Links here. The 24-year-old winner of two Ladies European Tour titles, who was tied-59th on day 2, had two birdies and a bogey, all in the first six holes.

Durand Cup: ITBP beat 10-men Anglong

KOKRAJHAR: Durand Cup debutants Indo Tibetan Border Police FT edged out 10-men Karbi Anglong Morning Star FC 2-1 in a Group D opener on Sunday. Lunminlen Haokip gave the lead to Karbi Anglong Morning Star FC but Pulung Diamary and Hemraj Bhujel helped ITBP bounce back.

PROMISING TALENT

Teen star Rethin makes resounding impact with his racquet

CHANDRA PRABHU @ Chennai

ON a cloudy Saturday evening at the SDAT-Stadium in Nungambakkam, Rethin Pranav clad in fluorescent yellow gave his opponent the blues. He dominated in what may be his final national level junior tournament. After making appearances in the junior Grand Slams this year, he is all set to make his mark in the American College Tennis circuit as he is set to join Cornell University in New York, United States.

The 17-year-old began the year at the top-30 in the ITF junior rankings. Those three appearances in the Australian Open, French Open and Wimbledon helped his stocks rise as a junior tennis player. It came off after a title-winning performance at the Fenesta Open National Championship last October and a final appearance in a J300 tournament in South Korea. However, an injury to his left thumb in November 2024 halted that good run. He made it to the Australian Open in January 2025 but that injury kept irking him. Pranav played against World No 9 tennis player from Finland Oskari Paldanius. Despite winning the first set 7-5, he ended up losing to his opponent. "I was slicing on my backhand, he knew that and capitalised on it. I had an unlucky draw but the experience was good," he said.

In the three Grand Slam appearances, the Dindigul boy relished the experience in the grass court at Wimbledon early this month. "Wimbledon has a separate vibe, from the other Grand Slams because of the prestige it carries," he said. In Round 1 of the maindraw in the men's doubles event, he and Japanese player Shion Itsusaki lost a tough game to eventual junior champions Paldanius and Polish Alan Wazny. The Dindigul born lad relishes the prospect of representing an Ivy League team in College Tennis. "My plan was to play there. We have seen it in Wimbledon this year, 35 of them played this circuit. It's a great place to study as well as improve as a player," he said. He expects to fully transition to a professional, by playing against the best there. With this move, the lad will be following the footsteps of Somdev Devvarman and Mahesh Bhupathi, who have won titles there. His beginnings were not easy, as his mother passed away in an accident when he was three years old. This was when his father Senthilkumar put him to tennis as a distraction.

Rethin Pranav and coach Rajeev Vijayakumar | EXPRESS

Full story: newindianexpress.com

KISS — Kalinga Institute of Social Sciences Deemed-to-be University U/s 3 of UGC Act, 1956, Bhubaneswar, Odisha, India

KISS is a School | KISS is a College | KISS is a University

First university in the world exclusively for tribals

Founded in 1992-93 by Prof Achyuta Samanta with 125 students in a rented house

Driven by the belief that education is key to eradicating poverty

Home to over 80,000 students, the Kalinga Institute of Social Sciences (KISS), Bhubaneswar, endeavours to fulfill a mission of empowering 2 million indigenous children through free and holistic education

TRANSFORMING TRIBAL LIVES THROUGH MANTRA OF EDUCATE-ENABLE-EMPOWER

TIMELINE OF GROWTH

1992-93: Founded by eminent educationist, philanthropist & social activist Prof Achyuta Samanta | Residential Educational Institution with 125 tribal students in a rented building

2005: Student strength increased to 3,000

2006: Late Dr APJ Abdul Kalam, former President of India, visited KISS and interacted with the students

2007: KISS boys win U-14 Rugby World Championship in London

2011: KISS boys win U-14 International Rugby Festival in Manchester

2013: KISS students interact with the former UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-Moon through video conferencing

2014: KISS girls win International Rugby Tournament in London

2015: The United Nations grants Special Consultative Status to KISS

2016: KISS associates with UN Department of Global Communications (UNDGC)

2017: Ministry of HRD, Gov't of India grants 'Deemed University' status to KISS, making it first exclusive tribal university of the world

2020: KISS Residential School (Mayurbhanj) & Motilal Oswal-KISS Residential School, Bolangir inaugurated

2022: Winner of UNESCO International Literacy Prize Hub for FIFA's 'Football for School' Initiative | Inauguration of KISS, Balasore | Inauguration of KISS Residential School, Kalahandi | Inauguration of First International Branch of KISS in Bangladesh

2023: Wins the International Green Gown Award

2024: Accredited with A Grade by NAAC in its 1st Cycle | Hosts the roundtable of UNESCO Chairs in South Asia | Hosts a massive volleyball festival

2025: Impact Global Ranking 50th Overall India Ranking & 1001-1500 Overall Global Ranking

Setting Milestones

Special Consultative Status with UN-ECOSOC (2015)

UNESCO International Literacy Prize (2022)

Guinness World Record in Volleyball Festival (2024)

International Green Gown Awards for Diversity, Equity & Inclusion in Sustainability (2023)

18th Energy Globe World Award (2017)

100% pass rate in Class 10th & 12th exams for 20 years

Platinum Band in the India Academia Rankings (IAR) 2025 by the R World Institutional Rankings

Alumni in Civil Services, national/ international sports, entrepreneurship

CAMPUS DETAILS

- **CAMPUS 1:** 10,80,000 SQ FT, +15 LAKH SQ FT under construction
- **CAMPUS 2:** 14,50,000 SQ FT
- **CAMPUS 3:** 9,00,000 SQ FT
- **CAMPUS 4:** 8,00,000 SQ FT

- Multipurpose Dining Hall (50,000 sq ft x 4) 1 in each of the 4 campuses
- Satellite centres with 100% female students

TOTAL STUDENTS: 80K (40,000+ current students & 40,000+ alumni)

Global outreach

Hosted delegations from FIFA

Dr Samanta with FIVB President

Global partnerships with UNFPA, UNICEF, UN Women, UNV, UNESCO and more

WINNING STREAK

INFRASTRUCTURE, ACHIEVEMENTS, AND TURNING POINTS

- 18 international standard sports complexes with gyms, swimming pools, synthetic volleyball, basketball and tennis courts, cycling velodrome besides indoor badminton, billiards, table tennis, yoga and squash courts
- Over 5,000 sports talents nurtured, 60% of them girls
- 300+ Int'l sportspersons, including Olympians in various sports
- Recognised as nodal centre for FIFA and FIVB school programmes
- KISS girls & boys have won international rugby tournaments in the UK
- Hosted the first Janjatiya Khel Mahotsav (JKM)
- Dr Samanta has promoted Rugby not only in Odisha but also across India

KISS Volleyball Festival smashes Guinness Record In Bhubaneswar, Oct 2024

40,000+ children participate

5,000 players

60 courts

+VE IMPACT

1 **Sustainable development:** Sustainable development is woven into KISS' core identity from its foundation. It drives their vision, mission, and values, and is championed by their students, staff, and institutional and corporate partners. Together, they work towards a world free from poverty, hunger, and illiteracy. KISS actively integrates the United Nations' 17 Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) into its education, projects, training, research, collaborations, student and alumni achievements, accreditations, and rankings.

2 **Holistic education:** KISS delivers inclusive, need-based education that empowers children, fostering empathy, collaboration, and respect for diversity within their communities.

3 **Zero dropout:** KISS succeeded in ensuring zero dropout rates and enhancing inclusion via multilingual, skills-based education, nurturing tribal children to be empathetic problem-solvers and leaders.

4 **Girl child empowerment:** With 60 per cent female enrollment, KISS equips tribal girls with leadership skills, providing them with equal opportunities to pursue careers as doctors, engineers, civil servants, and more.

5 **Containing Left-Wing Extremism:** KISS integrates children from insurgency-affected families, promoting peace and development through education and vocational training, leading to employment and reduced violence too.

6 **Grassroots empowerment:** KISS extends life skills training to government schools across Odisha, impacting over 1,00,000 adolescents and driving change through initiatives like "New Mind, New Dream".

7 **Changemakers:** KISS alumni excel in fields such as Civil Services and international sports, with many earning prestigious roles and recognition.

8 **Arresting Social Ills:** KISS combats dropout rates, child marriage, and poverty through vocational training, enabling students to uplift their families and communities as well.

KISS Humanitarian Award has gone to...

Dr Ary S Graça Fº
President, Federation Internationale de Volleyball (FIVB) Switzerland (2020)

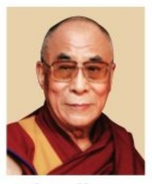
Bill Gates
Co-chair of the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, and Co-Founder and former CEO of Microsoft (2023)

Dr Dansa Kourouma
President, National Transition Council of Guinea, Guinea (2019)

His Excellency Lyonchhen Jigmi Y Thinley
Prime Minister, The Royal Government of Bhutan (2012)

His Excellency Dr Alejandro Toledo
Former President of Peru (2015)

The KISS Humanitarian Award stands as the pinnacle of honour by KIIT and KISS, celebrating entities and individuals exemplifying humanitarian service
—Dr Achyuta Samanta, Founder, KISS



His Holiness The 14th Dalai Lama
Nobel Laureate, and spiritual leader (2017)

Her Excellency Mama Rachel Ruto
EGH First Lady of the Republic of Kenya (2022)

Ratan Tata
Chairman Emeritus of the Tata Group (2021)

Madam Albina Du Boisrouvray
Founder, Association François-Xavier Bagnoud FXB International, Switzerland (2013)

Dr Ham Kee-Sun
Eminent educationist & physician and President & Founder, Hanseo University, South Korea (2009)

Rt Hon Lord Nicholas Addison Phillips
President (Chief Justice) of the Supreme Court of the United Kingdom (2011)

Ashley Judd
Hollywood actor, activist & Global Goodwill Ambassador, UNFPA (2016)

Rt Hon Sir Anerood Jugnauth
Eminent social worker & His Excellency the President of Mauritius (2010)

Edna Bomo Molewa
Noted social worker & Cabinet Minister, Social Development, South Africa National Assembly, South Africa (2008)

TOWARDS A GREEN FUTURE: ACHIEVING SDGs

- Contributes to SDG 1,2,3,4,5,10,13,16,17 like Quality Education, Gender Equality, Good Health, and Reduced Inequalities, SDG 16, 17
- 65% of students are girls; emphasis on girl child leadership and gender equity through programmes like Kalinga Fellowship and Kanya Kiran
- Empowers students from Left-Wing Extremism affected areas
- Promotes peace, inclusion, and sustainable development

STRENGTH IN UNITY

The success of KISS' model of empowering indigenous (tribal) people through education has attracted the world's attention. Many national and international organisations, including UN agencies and the US Federal Government, have come forward to work with KISS in advancing the global goals for equity, inclusion and sustainability.

UNIQUENESS OF KISS: ● 80,000 Indigenous students (40,000 on campus & 40,000 alumni) ● ZERO dropout rate among children ● 100% pass rate in 10th and 12th Board Exams for the last 20 years ● Spread over 4 campuses ● 10 satellite campuses in 10 districts of Odisha (5 functional & 5 in pipeline) ● 5,000 sporting talents nurtured, including Olympians ● 8 lakh tribal lives impacted ● 1,60,000 meals made & served per day in mega kitchen (40,000 children x 4 meals) ● 6 Guinness World Records and Limca Book of Records

CHANGE MAKERS

SADHAK KARJEE
Sub-Divisional Judicial Magistrate (SDJM), Balangir

HEMANTA PUTA
Deputy Collector Nuapada

MANTU KHAMARI
BDO, Binika, Subarnapur

JAGAJJIBAN MAJHI
TRO (Balangir), Currently in his training period

RANJIT NAIK
Int'l Archer (Team India), Presently working with Home Dep't, Gov't of Odisha

HUPI MAJHI
International rugby player (Team India)

MAGAI MAJHI
International kho kho player (Team India)

JYOSHNA SABAR
International weightlifter, (Team India)

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MONDAY

DAY'S DIARY

Film release

Walt Disney released *Alice In Wonderland* in 1951, featuring Kathryn Beaumont, J Pat O'Malley, Ed Wynn, and Sterling Holloway

ADAPTATION

This 13th of Disney's animated features is an adaptation of Lewis Carrol's *The Adventures of Alice in Wonderland* and *Through the Looking Glass*

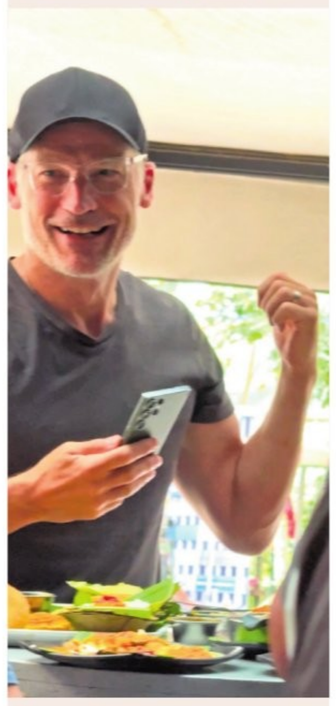
BEHIND THE SUCCESS

Beginning in 1923, Walt Disney produced a series of shorts starring the character of Alice, that mixed animation with live action

BITTER TRUTH

According to a 21 April, 1974 *NYT* article, Disney, who died in 1966, asserted that he disliked *Alice in Wonderland*, which he felt lacked warmth and humour

Plain Pleasures
PG 3



KING'S LANDING IN 'LURU

Having captured *Game of Thrones* fans' hearts with this portrayal of the dashing yet morally grey character of Jaime Lannister, Danish actor **Nikolaj Coster-Waldau** was spotted by fans enjoying a plate of bisi-bisi dosae and idli-sambar at Bengaluru's Rameshwaram Cafe, Rajajinagar, with the video of the encounter creating a buzz on social media. Having traded his sword and armour for a simple grey t-shirt, the star looked like any other tourist, according to Reena Khan Choudhary, the fashion blogger who spotted him along with her sister Shakira. "I was so surprised and almost didn't believe my eyes because he was dressed so simply and was very low key. His team and he waited in line like all the other customers and were very courteous when we asked for a selfie," says Choudhary. She adds that most people did not recognise the actor, saying, "One person even asked them to vacate a table saying that it was hers first, they didn't make a fuss at all and just moved to a different table." Later, Rameshwaram Cafe posted a picture of their staff with Coster-Waldau and his team on their official Instagram page. The caption read, "Thank you for choosing to experience our authentic South Indian flavours we are beyond thrilled to have shared this special day with you. (sic)"

BAND BAAJA (FAKE) BAARAAT

Faux wedding events that feature fun elements of Indian weddings without the marriage pressure and judgement are catching on among Gen Z Bengalureans

MAHIMA NAGARAJU

A CROWD of people dressed in sparkling lehengas, sarees, and sherwanis walking into a richly decorated hall to the sound of a dhol band is an image quintessential to Indian weddings. What if we told you that you didn't have to get married or be invited to a wedding, to experience the excitement of it all – sangeet, mehendi, and wedding chaat stalls included? That is exactly what 'fake wedding' or 'fake sangeet' events gaining popularity across the country among Gen Z, aims to do.

Bengaluru too, has seen a few of these events with Big Fat Fake Wedding hosted at JW Marriott seeing around 2,000 people in attendance, priced at ₹4,000 for men. "It was the hottest topic in town – everyone went out their way to get a new fit made and go all out with dressing in traditional wear," says Tanishka Choudhary, 20, a fashion student attendee. The appeal of such events to participants, mainly in their 20s, is being able to celebrate the 'dhoom dhaam' of weddings without the pressure or judgement of relatives. Choudhary says, "Gen Z doesn't really believe in marriage so concepts like this are appealing because it's a way to have fun and enjoy weddings without having to worry about marriage or judgement."

The metropolitan nature of Bengaluru too, has contributed to the popularity of fake weddings, according to Kaushal Chanani, the co-founder of 8club, the organisers of the JW Marriott event. "A lot of the attendees were from other parts of India – these events are prominent in cities where a lot of people are not regularly going to family events or family functions, because people want to build their own community with this."

PICS: SOCIAL KORAMANGALA

Another fake wedding event that saw a full house is Shaadi Mubarak hosted by Vaibhav Kumar Modi's Dark Vibe Society and two others, which sought to bring the wedding experience to the queer community, giving participants an experience the law still denies. "The idea came from thinking of what it would feel like for queer people who are not allowed to get married in India, to be a part of a marriage free from judgement," says Modi, adding that they did away with gender norms evident in weddings. "We had wedding games like a contest between partners to find a ring in the milk and a tug of war game without a groom and bride's side. We also had a sangeet led by drag performers."

Fake wedding nights have gained virality on social media with youngsters making reels gaining millions of views. With the social media attention, some have criticised the concept saying that Gen Z is not giving traditions the respect they are due but Prathiban, the GM of Raahi Neo Kitchen and Bar, has a rebuttal, "We are used to theme nights like a white night, red night, one night in Paris or Jamaica, etc. This is more like a sangeet-themed DJ night than a real wedding. We don't have rituals, just the decor, food and music is like a sangeet." This was priced at ₹2,000 for couples, redeemable against food and drinks.

While Delhi has been the epicentre of fake weddings events in India with at least one happening each week, Bengaluru is just beginning to catch on, notes Chanani, explaining the difference. "People in Delhi love to hop on the trend but Bengaluru's behaviour is different in terms of event organisers. They don't want to look like they are copying someone's concept. But we are in talks with a few organisers to bring it back to Bengaluru," he says, noting that there's been interest from tier two, three and four cities as well with a search on social media showing fake shaadis hosted in Kolhapur, Jaipur and Dehradun too. "We are seeing a lot of traction from small cities like Bhopal, Rajkot, that want to bring this to their community. We've gotten around 50-60 requests to collaborate in the weeks after the Bengaluru event went viral," adds Chanani.

'Relatability is the Key'

Ace designer Neeta Lulla taks about her journey in fashion, the evolving mindset of young designers, and more

DARSHITA JAIN

IN a space overflowing with imagination and fresh ideas, **Neeta Lulla**'s presence at Hamstech Creators Collect 2025 felt more like a homecoming than a celebrity appearance. She didn't arrive with an air of glamour but walked in with the ease of someone returning to something dear.

When asked what she notices first in a designer's work, she notes, "I look at their affinity for craft; how much they like their craft, their technique, and also a touch of how they relate to what is being shown to them and what is being asked of them. So, essentially, relatability is the most important factor," Lulla explains.

Her own entry into the fashion world didn't follow a rulebook. "The journey just unfolded on its own, and I'm here now. I get inspired each day with every piece of work I do, with every project I take up," she says.

There's a sincerity in the way she views creativity: "What keeps you going and constantly creative is passion and perseverance with the desire to do your work to the best of your ability."

When she speaks of success, it's not with thoughtfulness. She says, "Success is relative. For me, it has been that every day, I'm learning something new, my craft is appreciated, and the projects I get are increasingly challenging. People have respect for my work."

Her bond with students keeps her rooted, even after all these years. Lulla notes, "There's an exchange of thought processes that keeps you aligned with the current mindset. That is very appealing to me." Her advice to those just starting out? "It's an ongoing process you learn from every day. You have to keep your ears and mind open to absorb what you're learning. That's what the industry has taught me," she states.

After waving her magic wand in Pawan Kalyan-starrer *Hari Hara Veera Mallu* and now for Pawan Kalyan and Sreeleela-starrer *Ustaad Bhagat Singh*, Lulla is far from slowing down. She confesses that she doesn't have any favourites, sharing, "Each one comes with new challenges and requirements which appeal to me."

Talks around sustainable fashion light something different in her voice, a quiet urgency. She observes, "There is a growing awareness among Gen Z consumers today, and I believe it's important for every designer to develop a consciousness towards sustainability and eco-friendly products. By adding more meaning to slow fashion, rather than focusing solely on fast fashion, we can move in the right direction. India, after all, is a place where we cannot rely on just slow fashion or fast fashion alone. If we are able to educate our Gen Z audiences about sustainability, slow fashion, and our Indian arts and crafts – which are on the verge of dying out – it would be a step towards reviving our heritage."

If you think she has any regrets about her early days, she doesn't hesitate to say, "I learned so much during my student days. I kept my eyes, ears, and mind open to everything I came across; whether it was films, pop stars, or anything I saw in the library. I wouldn't do anything differently because I learned a lot."

Pic: Vinay Madapu

A cocktail event took participants on a nostalgic ride to the '90s with retro music, decor and signature drinks

SRUTHI HEMACHANDRAN

Pouring nostalgia

"YOU can dance, you can jive..." played softly in the background as ABBA's *Dancing Queen* faded out and guests settled in. Some nights feel less like events and more like memories in the making, and the '90s era at The Bench – Craft Bar & Kitchen, Brookefield on Saturday delivered just that. With retro music, comforting drinks and throwback prices, the evening brought back the carefree charm of the '90s in a nostalgic way.

The event was a collaboration with Sula Vineyards and Red Rhino Craft Brewery. Guests raised glasses of brut, signature red, and the easy-drinking hefeweizen and signature lager, while house favourites like red wine sangria, zombie mojito and full moon witch added a spirited twist to the offerings.

Giving a closer look at the inspiration behind the event and its nostalgic theme, Ajay Hegde, the founder of the outlet, says, "The '90s represent everything we stand for – that sweet spot between quality and accessibility. Back then, things were simpler but still aspirational. Now, people are constantly worried about inflation and it's eating into their entertainment budget. When I think about our mission of ensuring customers never have to sacrifice lifestyle due to fluctuating income levels, the '90s era perfectly captures that sentiment."

The menu paid homage to old-school favourites with dishes like salt & pepper corn, hara bara kebabs, egg chilly chang, and kimchi gai as starters. The main course brought together crowd-pleasers like paneer tikka masala, chicken Chettinad, and more, with accompaniments of steamed rice, roti, and naan.

Asked what song best represents the event, Hegde smiles. "*Walk of Life* by Dire Straits. The song captures our vibe perfectly – joyful, energetic, and all about bringing people together. It's about celebrating life's moments, big or small, much like what we strive to do here: create memorable experiences without the worry of high prices," he concludes.

CITY READ

Eco-friendly gear launched for cabin crew

Akasa Air, in collaboration with Uppercase, a lifestyle brand that focuses on eco-friendly baggage solutions, has launched custom-designed travel gear specifically for its cabin crew. The partnership is based in India, with both companies being homegrown brands. The collaboration aims to enhance the comfort and convenience of the crew while promoting sustainability and an employee-centric design approach. The gear was developed with direct input from crew members and is made from Recycled Claim Standard (RCS) certified recycled materials, ensuring functionality without compromising style.

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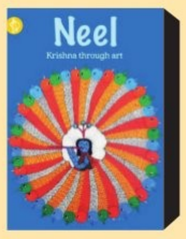
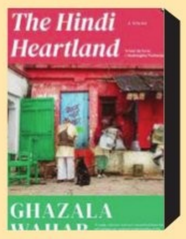
BOOK NOOK



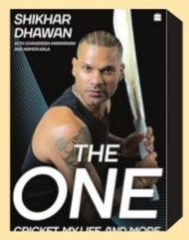
Neel, Krishna Through Art
By Vineeta & Arvind Kanoria

This book introduces young readers to the life and adventures of the Hindu god Krishna through renowned works of Indian art. To create a visually engaging experience, each page in the book features a work of art that depicts an episode from the life of Krishna.



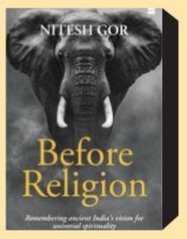
The Hindi Heartland: A Study
By Ghazala Wahab

The Hindi belt is among the most impoverished regions in the country. It consumes the bulk of the country's resources, but lags behind other states on various economic and welfare indices. It is plagued by violence, illiteracy, unemployment, corruption, poor life expectancy, and numerous other ills.



The One : Cricket, My Life and More
By Shikhar Dhawan

It offers an unprecedented glimpse into Shikhar Dhawan's inner monologue and all the vulnerabilities that have shaped him into the champion cricketer and sensitive human being he is today.



Before Religion
By Nitesh Gor

This book is about how spirituality can be experienced by anyone, anywhere. It is about self-realisation and the ultimate reality that exists behind a veil of illusion.

ARMA VIMARSHA SERIES
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THE HOUSE OF
ANGADI
presents a talk by
Ganesh V. Shiva
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ANGADI
"Radha" (in Devanagari and English scripts), 1895. Chromolithograph from the Ravi Varma Fine Arts Lithographic Press, Bombay.
"Grandmothers of Thirty", from the Hindi Punch, October 1896.

R(L)EGAL TALK

Advocate and art historian Ganesh V Shivaswamy presents a talk titled, 'Art & Law – Exploring these fields through the works of Raja Ravi Varma' at Angadi Heritage, Jayanagar | **KEVIN NASHON**

QUICKFIX

AVIL PAYASAM

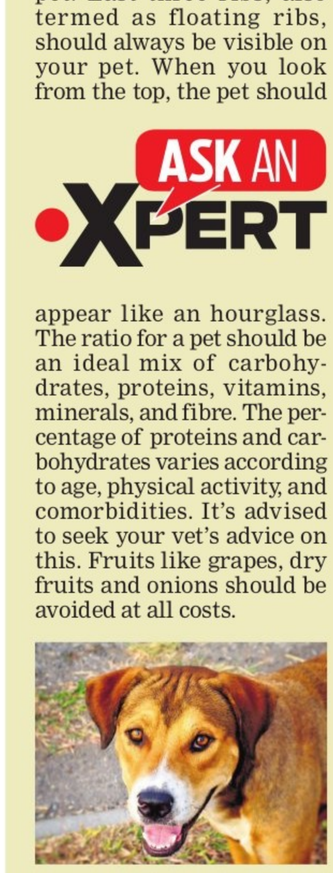
INGREDIENTS

- **Avil (Beaten rice) :** 300 g
- **Milk:** 1.5 litre
- **Saffron:** 1 g
- **Ghee:** 250 g
- **Raisins:** 20 g
- **Cashew:** 50 g
- **Cardamom powder:** 10 g

METHOD

- Heat a pan on a medium-low flame and add 100 grams of ghee.
- When the ghee melts, add the cashews and raisins, and fry them until it turns golden.
- Remove and keep it aside. In the same pan, add more ghee, and once melted, add avil. Stir and mix the avil well in the ghee. Roast till the avil changes its colour to a light golden colour.
- Then add the milk and saffron. Keep the heat on low and bring the mix to a boil for 3 minutes.
- Add sugar and cardamom powder and mix well till sugar dissolves. Continue to simmer the payasam for 3 to 5 minutes. Switch off the stove.
- Add the roasted cashews and raisins to the payasam. Serve hot.

Contributed by **Mariya Abraham,** Kochi



DR VIVEK ARORA

The expert is a senior veterinarian, Dr Gandhi's Pet Clinic, Delhi.

What is a healthy weight for a seven-year-old, neutered female? What are the ideal foods to maintain a good weight?

ASK AN XPERT

Body Condition Score (BCS) is the marker to see how your pet is in terms of obesity. There are a few yardsticks to determine the correct body weight for your pet. Last three ribs, also termed as floating ribs, should always be visible on your pet. When you look from the top, the pet should appear like an hourglass. The ratio for a pet should be an ideal mix of carbohydrates, proteins, vitamins, minerals, and fibre. The percentage of proteins and carbohydrates varies according to age, physical activity, and comorbidities. It's advised to seek your vet's advice on this. Fruits like grapes, dry fruits and onions should be avoided at all costs.

FITBIT

LAMBA VIRABHADRASANA I KATI HANGED AERIAL

(WARRIOR POSE I HIP HANGED AERIAL)

This is a beginner-level aerial standing/stretch pose, which is a variation of the base pose Virabhadrasana I (Warrior Pose I). Here, the hammock suspends the thigh area, reducing the load on the back leg and allowing for greater hip flexor and quadriceps lengthening. This support changes the alignment by minimising weight-bearing on the legs, requiring more core engagement for balance while enabling a deeper spinal extension.

STEPS

- Start in Tadasana (Mountain Pose), facing the hammock at hip height. Take a deep breath here.
- Inhale, shift weight onto the right foot, and place the left thigh into the hammock, positioning it just above the knee, toes relaxed.
- Exhale, step the right foot back at a 45-degree angle, grounding the outer edge of the foot. Keep the right knee extended, lifting the kneecap to engage the quadriceps.
- Inhale, square the hips by drawing the left hip slightly back and the right hip slightly forward. Engage the core to maintain balance.
- Exhale, press the tailbone down and gently sink into the lunge, allowing the hammock to support the left leg. Keep the right leg active and engaged.
- Inhale, extend the arms overhead, bringing the palms together in Namaskar Mudra. Keep the shoulders relaxed and away from the ears.
- Exhale, lift the chest slightly, look forward. Maintain a steady breath, feeling the deep stretch in the hip flexors, quadriceps, and spine.
- Hold the pose for six to eight breaths or as per your capacity, maintaining stability and balance.
- Release the pose slowly, remove the leg from the hammock and return to Tadasana.
- Repeat on the other side. Release and relax in Three Part Mountain Pose.

BENEFITS

- Enhances the lengthening of the spine and improves overall balance.
- Encourages a more open chest and shoulders.
- Helps to maintain a great looking toned muscle.
- Increases flexibility in the hips and strengthens and tones the legs, ankles and feet.
- Extends the chest and diaphragm to remain stable in this pose.
- Deep stretch at the chest and diaphragm contracts the muscles, activating the organs related to the respiratory system.
- Helps improve air circulation. Keeps the nasal passage clear, reducing any allergy.
- Builds stability and stamina, and also helps to gain self-confidence.
- Shoulders and neck get equal stretch, reducing the stiffness.
- Improves energy levels in the body.
- Improves functions of the abdominal muscles, the digestive system and the reproductive system.
- Creates a better movement of the nerve, including the sciatic nerve.
- Helps reduce symptoms related to insomnia.

LIMITATIONS

- In case of injury to the hip, knees, back, or recent surgery in these areas, avoid this.
- Any injuries or existing weaknesses in the neck, keep the chin tucked in and the neck in line with the spine.
- Those with headaches or balance issues should take it slow. Pregnant women should be extremely mindful.

By N Elumalai, PhD Scholar (Yoga Science) at Meenakshi Academy of Higher Education & Research, Chennai

EXPRESS CONNECT

HAVE A RECIPE OR ART WORK TO SHARE, OR A QUESTION TO ASK?

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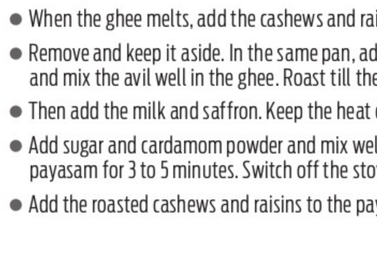
WHATWHENWHYWHERE

Monday Madness

Start your week with an electrifying night of Bollywood and Punjabi hits, spun by DJ Guru. Take your crew and own the dance floor to chase away Monday blues.

WHEN: July 28, 7pm **WHERE:** Ginza Club, Koramangala **DETAILS:** bookmyshow.com



Just For Laughs

Unwind and laugh out loud at a live standup comedy show. Find a refreshing start to your week. Take your friends along and laugh at this event that promises to offer some rib-tickling jokes.

WHEN: July 28, 9.30pm **WHERE:** Tag Comedy Club, Koramangala **CALL:** 90191 33053

Souls Intertwined

Take part in this Couple Yoga Workshop specially curated for partners to reconnect and enhance their bond through synchronised stretches and breathing exercises. It offers a relaxing environment to cultivate a shared hobby and deepen connections.

WHEN: July 28, 10am onwards
WHERE: New York Dance Classes, Bilekahalli
CALL: 98187 41350

Poetic Evening

Attend this event that will feature Robina, an abstract poet and an educator whose work aims to evoke deep emotions and reflections. Enjoy an evening of heartfelt verses that resonate with joy, nostalgia, and the essence of life.

WHEN: July 29, 7.30pm onwards
WHERE: Urban Solace, Ulsoor
DETAILS: district.in

Virtual Reality

Experience a digital adventure zone that blends reality with immersive technology, offering thrilling attractions for all ages. From VR rides to interactive holograms, prep yourself to step into the future of entertainment.

WHEN: July 28, 12pm onwards
WHERE: Nexus Shantiniketan Mall, Whitefield
DETAILS: bookmyshow.com

Furry Fun

Get ready for a paws-itively unforgettable day as your furry friend gets to enjoy a fun-filled adventure. Let them run wild and revel in quality time, making cherished memories together.

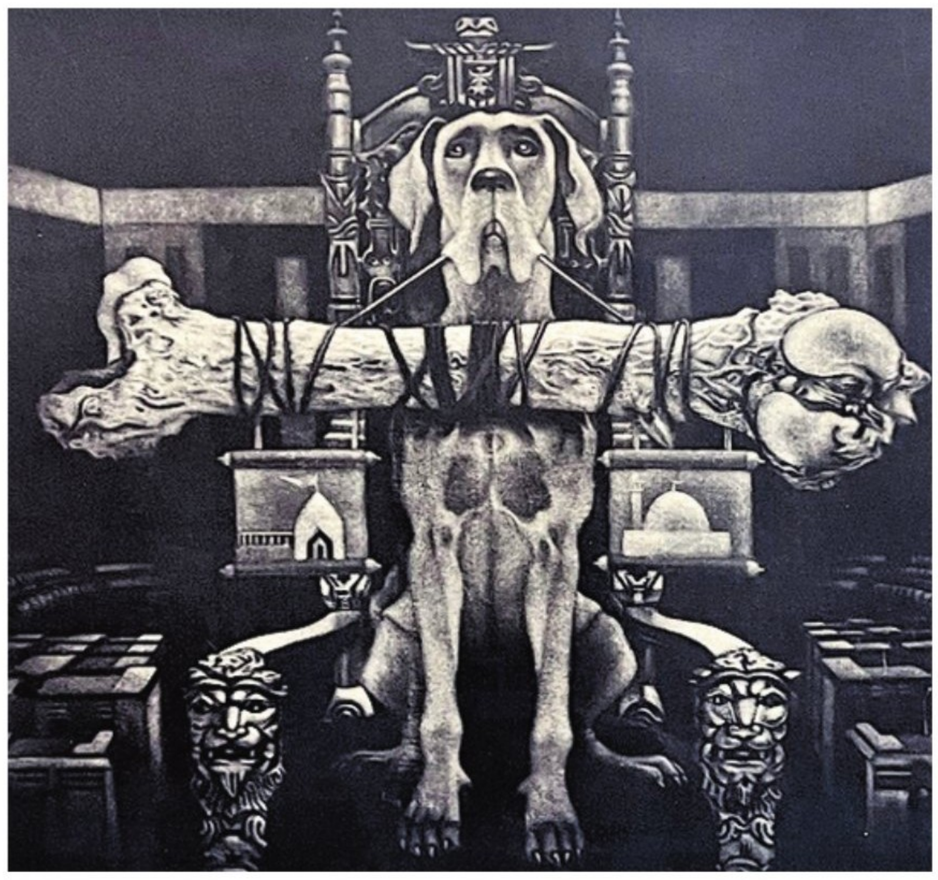
WHEN: July 29, 9am onwards
WHERE: Wag-ville Pet Resort, Vidhana Soudha Layout
CALL: 94499 29024

Magnet Magic

Unleash your creativity at this event, using a DIY fridge magnet kit, featuring vibrant paints, glossy tiles, and strong magnets. Perfect for all ages, create unique designs to brighten up your fridge or give as fun gifts.

WHEN: July 28, 1pm
WHERE: Know How, Pattabhirama Nagar
DETAILS: district.in

ARTCORNER



TRAPPED IN

In his artwork 'Indian Beef Bone', artist Tushar Sahay captures the shackles of a rat trap that city life embodies

Vanilla martini

Ingredients

- Sugar: 1 cup
- Water: 1 cup
- Green apples: 3
- Vanilla bean: 1 (halved lengthways)
- Lime: 1 (juiced)
- Caster sugar: ¼ cup
- Vodka: chilled in the freezer

Method

Combine the sugar and water in a small saucepan and stir over medium heat until the sugar dissolves. Peel the apples, and add the peel to the sugar syrup with half of the vanilla. Simmer the syrup for five minutes and allow it to cool. Strain out the peel and vanilla bean. Chill the syrup. Juice the two peeled apples. Add lime juice to it and allow it to chill. Scrap the seeds from the other half of the vanilla bean and then add to the caster sugar. Chill two martini glasses and dip the rim in the vanilla sugar. Pour 1 tablespoon of the apple and vanilla syrup into each glass, and add two tbsp of vodka or as per your taste into each glass. Top with fresh apple and lime juice.

PLAIN PLEASURES

CE looks into a variety of dishes that are made better with vanilla, the fragrant spice

KRISHNA P S

VANILLA suffers a PR problem. The very utterance of the word brings to mind the phrase, 'the plain, old, boring'. But did you know that this spice (yes, that's right) is quite versatile and augments any flavour with its sweet aroma?

Vanilla's applications are not limited to just food. It's used in perfumes, confectioneries, skincare, incense, and more. Needless to say, this spice is an indispensable ingredient of the modern era. But hey, its flavour profile is anything but plain. It's sweet, warm, creamy, and with subtle floral notes. People, in fact, go crazy about it.

The history

Vanilla has been in use and was valued for aeons. It is said that it was the Olmecs in Mexico who were the first to use vanilla in cuisine. The first to domesticate wild vanilla was the Totonac, also from the same region, but thousands of years later, i.e. early 1100s. Later, in the 15th century, the Aztecs started using them in their hot chocolate drinks.

Vanilla reached Europe in the early 16th century. Initially, it was added with chocolate to counter the latter's bitter taste. But soon, sweetmeats were being prepared using vanilla. By the 18th century, the French started making ice creams in vanilla flavour.

Now, vanilla is the most expensive spice after saffron, i.e. when measured in weight. However, since natural vanilla cannot meet the demand of the world, the most widely available flavour is the one artificially created.

Vanilla comes from an orchid variety of the genus vanilla. Madagascar is the biggest producer of this versatile spice (80 per cent of global demand). Then comes Indonesia, Uganda, India, and Mexico.

Sweet note

From cake to ice creams, chocolates, to even coffees, vanilla is that one ingredient that makes the dish complete, thanks to its profound aromatic presence. Now, here are a variety of dishes that are made better with this popular spice.

Vanilla chocolate chip cookies

Ingredients

- All-purpose flour: 3 ¼ cups
- Baking soda: 1 tsp
- Salt: ¾ tsp
- Butter: 1.5 cups (softened)
- Sugar: 1 ¼ cups
- Brown sugar: 1 cup
- Eggs: 2
- Vanilla extract: 4 tsp
- Smie sweet chocolate chips: 340gm
- Chopped walnuts: 1 cup

Method: First, preheat the oven to 190° C. Mix flour, baking soda and salt in a bowl. Set aside. Beat butter and sugars in a large bowl until it turn fluffy. Add eggs and vanilla to it, and mix well. Gradually add flour, and mix well. Add in chocolate chips and walnuts. Take a spoon. Add two tablespoons of the mixture onto ungreased baking sheets. Keeping a distance, add another. Like that, add the entire mixture. Bake for around nine minutes. Remove the cookies from the baking sheets after a minute. Then, let it cool completely.

Mango vanilla salsa

Ingredients

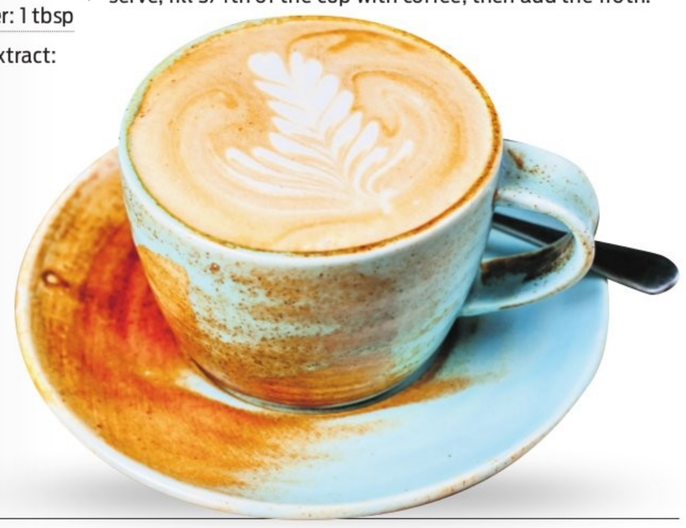
- Mango: 1
- Tomatoes: 2
- Jalapeño: 1 (substitute with spicy green chillies)
- Red onion: 1/8 cup (diced)
- Lime zest: ½ tsp
- Lime juice: 1 lime
- Garlic: ½ clove (chopped)
- Vanilla bean: 1 (scraped)
- Salt: To taste
- Pepper: To taste

Method: Peel and dice the mango and chop the jalapeno. In a bowl, gather these ingredients along with sliced red onion. Take lime zest and juice into another bowl, and mix well by whisking. Chop ½ clove of garlic and scrape the vanilla bean. Add garlic and vanilla to the lime juice bowl. Whisk all ingredients together. Add the mix to the mango. Combine well and serve.

Ingredients

- Milk: 1 cup
- Sugar: 2 tsp
- Coffee powder: 1 tsp
- Hot water: 1 tbsp
- Vanilla extract: 1/2 tsp

Method: Boil the milk and simmer for a minute. Add three tbsp of hot milk to a container. Close tight. To a bowl, add coffee powder and hot water. Mix well. Add this to boiled milk. Add sugar and mix well. Now, add vanilla essence and mix again. Take the container with the three tbsp of milk and shake well to create froth. To serve, fill 3/4th of the cup with coffee, then add the froth.



Vanilla milkshake

Ingredients

- Vanilla ice cream: 2 cups
- Milk: 1 cup
- Vanilla extract: 1 tsp

Method

Gather all the ingredients and blend them together in a mixer until smooth. Pour into glasses and serve.

Hot vanilla milk

Ingredients

- Milk: 1 cup
- Sugar: 2 tsp
- Vanilla extract: 2 tsp
- Ground cinnamon: 1 tsp

Method

Boil milk in a saucepan. Let it simmer on medium heat. Mix cinnamon and sugar together and add to the milk. Stir in vanilla. Pour into a cup and drink.

Vanilla cake

Ingredients

- Sugar: 1 cup
- Butter: ½ cup
- Eggs: 2
- Vanilla extract: 1 tsp
- Almond extract: 1 tsp
- All-purpose flour: 1 ½ cups
- Corn flour: 3 tbsp
- Baking powder: 1 ¾ tsp
- Salt: ½ tsp
- Milk: ¾ cup

Method: Preheat the oven to 175° C. Grease and flour a 9x9-inch pan. Now, beat sugar and butter in a bowl until creamy. Beat in eggs, one at a time. Add vanilla and almond extract while stirring. Combine flour, corn flour, baking powder, and salt in another bowl. Add this mix to the other, mix well. Stir in milk until the batter is smooth. Add the batter to the pan. Bake for around 30-40 minutes.

THE NEW INDIAN EXPRESS **CLASSIFIEDS**

PUBLIC NOTICE
CHANGE OF NAME

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **VIHAAN K TALLAM**, S/o KARTHIK TALLAM, Residing at #7, 3rd Cross, Shankarapuram, Bangalore South, Bangalore Karnataka-560004. Do hereby declare that I have changed my name from **VIHAAN TALLAM** to **VIHAAN K TALLAM** vide Affidavit Dated 25.07.2025 Sworn Before Notary: B M Chandrashekar.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **MADHUKARA VIDHYASANDRA HUCHAPPA** S/o **HUCHAPPA DOLLEGOWDA**, Aralalusandra Village and Post Virupakshipura Hobali Channapatna Taluk Ramanagar Dist-562138 have changed my name to **MADHUKAR VIDHYASANDRA HUCHAPPA** vide affidavit dated: 26/7/2025 Before Notary **GEETHA B** RAMANAGAR

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **PAVAN KUMAR GAUR**, resident of No. 397, 7th Main Road, 3rd Phase, J.P. Nagar, Bangalore-560 078 do hereby declare that I have changed my name from **PAVAN GAUR** to **PAVAN KUMAR GAUR**, henceforth I shall be known and called as **PAVAN KUMAR GAUR**, vide affidavit dated 25-07-2025, sworn before Advocate and Notary **M. RAJENDRA** at Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **GOVARDHAN SHETTY**, aged 64 years, S/o. **Rama Shetty**, residing of No. 315, 3rd Floor, DS Max Sheltons, NGEF Layout, Mallathahalli, Bengaluru-560056, have changed my name from **GOVARDHAN SHETTY RAMA SHETTY** to **GOVARDHAN SHETTY** vide affidavit dated 26-07-2025 sworn before Notary **DEEPA. M,** BENGALURU.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **MAHENDRA KUMAR** S/o. Late LOON KARAN aged about 52 years, Residing at No. 1090, 18th B Main, 66th Cross, 5th Block, Rajajinagar, Bengaluru-560010, do hereby affirm that I have been known by the names **MAHENDRA KUMAR** and **MAHENDRA KUMAR NAHAR**, and that both names refer to one and the same person – myself. Affidavit Sworn before Notary H.H. Nagaraj, Bengaluru-560010 Reg No. LAW-LCL/88/2024

CHANGE OF NAME
I, RUDRAMOORTHY SAKHTIVEL S/o Rudramoorthy R/o. 1st Floor, Lakshmi Illam, Tamil Nagar, Kollampalayam Bye Pass Road, Erode, Tamilnadu 638002 have changed my Minor Son's Name from S S KAVISH to KAVISH KRISHNAN S S (DOB: 6.4.2014) vide affidavit dated: 8.4.2025 before Notary H.G. Padmanabha Rao, Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, CHARANSIMHA D, S/o Divyasimha S, Presently residing at Flat No.T4, 3rd Floor, No.65/137, Sai Residency, 7th Cross, Sarva bhoumanagara, Chikkalasandra, Bengaluru-560061. Karnataka, India, do hereby declare that my name is changed from **CHARANSIMHA D** to **CHARAN SIMHA D** vide affidavit dated 26-07-2025 sworn before notary S N MADHU, Kathriguppe, Bengaluru.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, Giridhar S Viswakarma, S/O Sheshachala BP, aged about 40 years, R/at 2889, Divya Nilaya, 15th A Cross, KR Road, Banashankari 2nd statge, Bangalore-560070, here by state that I have change my name from " Giridhar " S To " Giridhar S Viswakarma" vide affidavit Dated 22.07.2025, before Sumithra.N, B.A, LL.B. Advocate & Notary, No. 22/3, 17th 'A' Main, Maruthi Block, Srinagar, Bengaluru-560050.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **SINDHU NATHAN**, Wife of Late I Gerald Nathan resident of A 16/1 Vijaykiran Apartment, 32 Victoria Road, Bangalore South, Karnataka-560047, have changed my name from **SINDHU NATHAN** to **SINDHU THOMAS** vide affidavit dated 26th July 2025. Sworn before Notary Jalandhara, Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **NANDESHA SHIVARAMU** S/o **Shivaramu,** Nagapura Village Akkur Post Channapatna Taluk Ramanagar Dist- 562138 have changed my name to **NANDEESHA SHIVARAMU** vide affidavit dated: 26/7/2025 Before Notary **GEETHA B** RAMANAGAR

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **ANANDI SUBHASHCHANDRA SHENOY**, D/o Subhash Chandra Shenoy, age 44 years, R/o No. B1-301, Shriram Shreyas Apartments, Off. Thindlu-Kodigehalli Main Road, Virupakshapura, Bengaluru-560 097 do hereby declare that all the names i.e. **ANANDI SHENOY, SHENOY ANANDI SUBHASHCHANDRA, ANANDI SUBHASHCHANDRA SHENOY** and **ANANDI SRINIVAS NAYAK** are one and the same and refers to me only, henceforth I shall be known and called as **ANANDI SUBHASHCHANDRA SHENOY** for all purposes, vide affidavit dated 25-07-2025, sworn before Advocate and Notary **VIJAYALAKSHMI .K** at Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **JYOTI KERUR**, W/o Basavaraj M W residing at Flat No. G-05, Alcons Pearl Apartment, Behind Canara Bank, Thindlu Main Road Vidyaranyapura, Bangalore-560097, do hereby declare that, I have changed my name from **JYOTHI KERUR** alias **JYOTI S KERUR** to **JYOTI KERUR**. Henceforth, I shall be known and called as **JYOTI KERUR** only, vide affidavit dated 25/07/2025 sworn before advocate and notary K.C.Pemmaiah, at Bengaluru.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **RAJENDRA KUMAR** S/o. Late LOON KARAN aged about 60 years, Residing at No. 1091/2, 18th Main, 66th Cross, 5th Block, Rajajinagar, Bengaluru-560010, do hereby affirm that I have been known by the names **RAJENDRA KUMAR** and **RAJENDRA KUMAR NAHAR**, and that both names refer to one and the same person – myself. Affidavit Sworn before Notary H.H. Nagaraj, Bengaluru-560010 Reg No. LAW-LCL/88/2024

CHANGE OF NAME
I GUNAVANTHI W/o Vimal Chand Residing at No.302, 3rd Floor, Karthik Subdeep Apartments, GR Lane, Kumbarpet, Bengaluru 560002, have changed my name from (Old Name) **GUNVATHI** to (New Name) **GUNAVANTHI** vide affidavite dated 25/07/25 sworn before notary V. Rajashekhara, Bengaluru.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, RACHAPPA, S/o. Nagshetty, resident of No. 5-94/3, Ranjolkheni, Ranjol Kheni Post, Bidar, Karnataka, 585329, have changed my name from **RACHAPPA** to **RACHAPPA NAGSHETTY** vide affidavit dated: 26-07-2025 sworn before notary S N Madhu, Reg. No.10108, Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, Sunil Vittal Arkasali, S/o. Vittal Arkasali, R/at No 09, Near Maruthi Granite, Thagnchaguppe, Kumbalagodu, Bengaluru - 560060, Karnataka, India. I have changed my name from **SUNIL ARKASALI** to **SUNIL VITTAL ARKASALI**. Vide affidavit dated 24.07.2025 sworn before Advocate & Notary H. S. Sakalesh Aradhya.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **(OLD NAME) HIRANYA BISWAL** residing at No. 208/11, Doddahullur Village, Near Ganesh Temple, Factory Gate Road, Hosakote, Bangalore-562114, have changed my name from **(OLD NAME) HIRANYA BISWAL to (NEW NAME) HIRANYA KUMAR BISWAL** vide affidavit dated 25.07.2025 sworn before Notary A.Manjula., Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **RAKSHITHA.S**, D/o 14264161K EX-NAIK, K. Sathyanarayana Rao, residing at No.22, Vinayaka Layout, Ayappa circle, Devasandra Main Road, K.R Puram Hobli, Bangalore-560036, have changed my name from **S RAKSHITHA** to **RAKSHITHA S**, vide Affidavit dated 16.07.2025 sworn before Advocate and Notary **C Sasikala** at Bangalore.

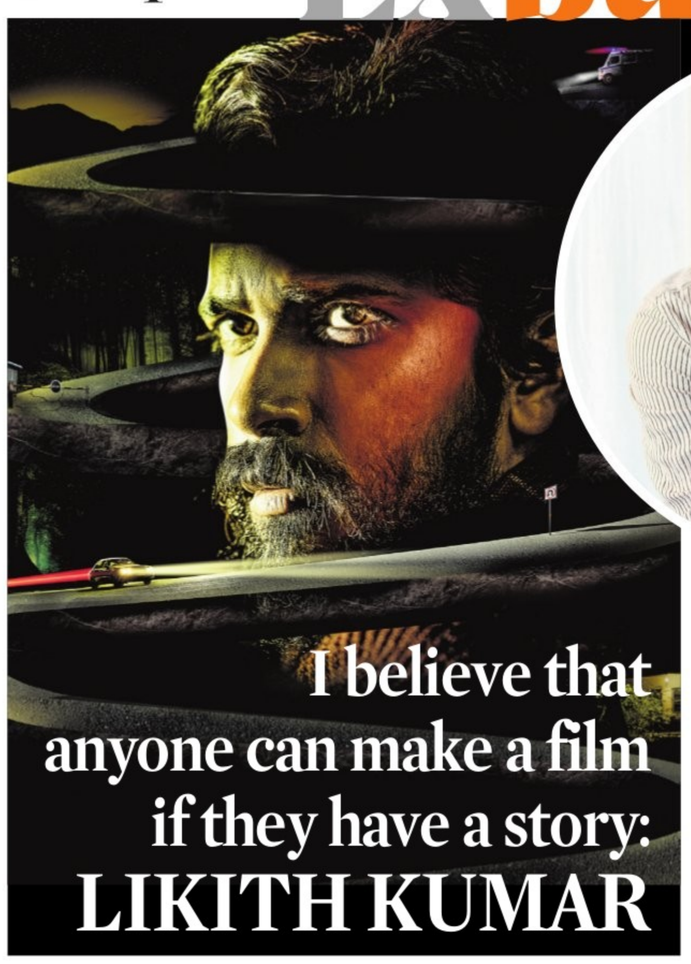
CHANGE OF NAME
I, **DHRUTHI CHANDRASHEKAR**, aged 22 years, D/o. **S.B. Chandrashekara**, residing of No. 29, Andrahalli Main Road, Sri Shivakumara Swamy Badavane, Bengaluru-560058, have changed my name from **DHRITHI CHANDRASHEKARA** to **DHRUTHI CHANDRASHEKAR** vide affidavit dated 25-07-2025 sworn before Notary **DEEPA M.** BENGALURU.

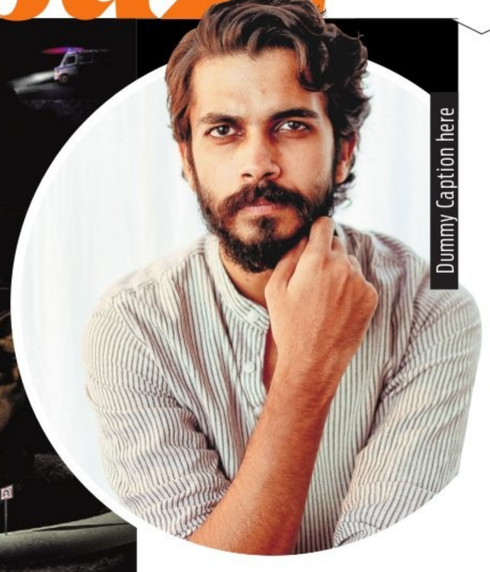
AFFIDAVIT
I, **RYNA ROSE DSOUZA**, aged about 38 years, W/o. Sherman Ben Serrao, resident of No.201, Ashiana Gardens, 13th 'C' Main Road, Doopanahalli HAL 2nd Stage, Bengaluru-560008. I state that my name is entered in Aadhar Card as **'RYNA ROSE DSOUZA**, in my DL entered as **RYNA MICHEL D'SOUZA**, in my Holy Cross Church Cordel record entered as **RINA ROSE CHRISTLE DSOUZA** & in my Marriage Certificate & St Sebastian Church Bendur, records it is entered as **RYNA ROSE CHRISTLE D'SOUZA.** Hereby declare that, above said names are one and the same & it refers to me only, hereinafter i will called and known as **RYNA ROSE DSOUZA** only. Vide Affidavit dated 26.07.2025, Sworn before Advocate and Notary K.V. Mani, Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **SARALA DEVI** W/o. RAJENDRA KUMAR aged about 54 years, Residing at No. 1091/2, 18th Main, 66th Cross, 5th Block, Rajajinagar, Bengaluru-560010, do hereby affirm that I have been known by the names **SARALA DEVI** and **SARALA DEVI NAHAR**, and that both names refer to one and the same person – myself. Affidavit Sworn before Notary H.C. Thammanna Gowda Bengaluru-560073 Reg No. LAW-LCL/145/2021

CHANGE OF NAME
I, PARAMESHWARI BALU, Presently residing at 284, 6th Cross, Bhuvaneshwarinagara, Banashankari 3rd Stage, Bengaluru-560085. Karnataka, India, do hereby declare that my name is changed from **PARAMESHWARI BALU** to **PARAMESHWARI** vide affidavit dated 25-05-2025 sworn before notary S N MADHU, Kathriguppe, Bengaluru.

For SMART ADS & THE NEW INDIAN EXPRESS CLASSIFIEDS
Contact : Mr Ravi Kumar
9886550650
080-22866893





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I believe that anyone can make a film if they have a story: LIKITH KUMAR

With a single character at its centre, the first-time director discusses his debut, *Vritta*, which is set to release this week

CE FEATURES

EVERY filmmaker hopes to leave a mark with their first project, and for Likith Kumar, that vision takes form in *Vritta*, a psychological thriller that doesn't rely on big effects or scale. Instead, it delves into one character's mind, drawing the audience into a world of suspense, silence, and escalating tension.

Vritta hits theatres on August 1. The story follows Siddharth, played by Maheer Mohiddin, a reclusive man whose life changes after a mysterious late-night call and a wrong turn. What follows is a confusing night that challenges his sense of reality, identity, and perception.

"*Vritta* means circle, but in the film, it represents more than just a circle. It's about the loop of situations the main character finds himself in," Likith explains. "One decision, one turn, leads a man into a series of strange, unexpected events. It's a thriller told through a personal and psychological lens."

Likith takes a unique risk by focusing on a single character, a choice not often made in cinema. "Almost 90 per cent of the screen time belongs to Siddharth," he says. "The challenge was whether one actor could carry the weight of a psychological thriller. We believed he could. Even the camera behaves like a character, moving with him, observing him, and sometimes isolating him."

Siddharth's journey begins with a trip to Pushpagiri, which soon carries a deeper meaning. "He's withdrawn and burdened by unresolved thoughts. That trip marks the starting point, both literally and psychologically," Likith adds. "From there, the story unfolds through his eyes. The environment itself tells the story. We use silence, space, and tension as tools, not just words."

With minimal dialogue and a strong atmosphere, *Vritta* highlights themes of internal fear, identity crisis, and mental chaos. "We aimed to create something immersive, where the audience can slowly sink into the experience, just like the character," Likith notes.

Although *Vritta* is his first film as a director, Likith is experienced in filmmaking. His background includes editing, cinematography, and assisting in various departments. With *Vritta*, he takes on directing, writing the screenplay, and the film is produced by his father, Shivakumar, under Lakshay Arts.

"I've spent years working behind the camera. I've learned that every frame counts," he says. "This time, I wanted to take full responsibility. I believe that if you have a story, anyone can make a film."

The cast also features Harini Sundaraj, Master Anurag, and Srinivas Prabhu in important supporting roles. The film is produced by Shivakumar, with cinematography by Gautham Krishna, music by Anthony MG and Hari Krishanth, editing by Suresh Arumugam, and dialogues and lyrics written by Shankar Raman.

Likith Kumar

SU FROM SO REWRITES BOX OFFICE RULES

A SHARADHAA

Raj B Shetty reacts to the overwhelming love from Kannada audiences and reflects on what's next, while director JP Thuminad is left speechless by the storm the film has created

Su From So, a Kannada horror-comedy drama produced by Raj B Shetty under Lighter Buddha Films and directed by JP Thuminad, is rewriting box office rules. What began with a single premiere in Mangaluru, followed by Shivamogga and Mysuru, quickly snowballed into 28 preview shows across Karnataka before its theatrical release on July 25.

Since then, the film has been unstoppable. With packed houses and roaring footfalls from all corners of the state, *Su From So* has sold over 3.80 lakh tickets in just three days. Remarkably, it became the first Kannada film in ages to secure 72 early morning shows on a Sunday, all running to full houses—even on weekdays.

In a time when Kannada cinema was witnessing a lull, *Su From So* emerged as a much-needed silver lining. The team has managed to gross ₹7 crore in just three days, purely based on strong word of mouth.

Even more interesting is the demand, it's rare to see a film expanding its shows every day and yet cinema-goers continue to struggle to find tickets. Relying solely on its content, *Su From So* is now breaking beyond Karnataka's borders.

Demand across South Indian languages, to release overseas on August 1

On August 1, the film will release in Kerala under the same title. Supported by Dulquer Salmaan, the distribution will be handled by his Wayfarer Films, ensuring a wide release across the state. The film is also headed north as Anil Thadani's AA Films, known for releasing South Indian giants like *Kantara, KGF*, and Pushpa, will distribute the Kannada version of *Su From So* across North India.

Cities like Mumbai, Pune, Chennai, Hyderabad, Delhi, and Punjab are already screening limited shows, which are running to packed houses. There's now growing demand for Tamil and Telugu dubbed versions, with dubbing currently in progress. Meanwhile, global audiences can gear up for the international release. Through Phars Film, *Su From So* is set to release in the USA, Australia, Dubai, and other international markets starting August 1.

It felt like people slapped us awake: Raj B Shetty

Raj B Shetty, who serves as the producer, actor, and creative force behind the film, is overwhelmed by the response. "It felt like people slapped us awake," he says. "They're telling us, 'Give us good cinema, and we'll show up.' That's the message we've received loud and clear."

He continues, "There was this illusion that only something on the scale of Kantara or KGF could work. But *Su From So* is personal and simple, and yet, it's resonating the same way with audiences. Despite not getting proper shows in the beginning, we've had a great run. From next week, we may get more."

Raj also recalls advice he received to avoid releasing the film on July 25 due to competition from bigger releases. "Some even suggested postponing. But I treated that week like an ad campaign—just to tell audiences that this film exists. The word of mouth from Day 1 did the magic. We never anticipated this level of response. We're in a good space and yes, we've broken ticket sale records."

On Part 2? "It goes against our ethics," says Raj

When asked about a sequel, Raj remains firm. "Someone suggested we go for *Su From So* 2. The moment I heard that, I said, 'No.' It would go against the very ethics we stand for. We're not here to chase success. We want to create something original every time."

Looking ahead, Raj says the team will stay grounded. "We should not rush. Let's reflect, and then decide what's next. I want to nurture new talent again. That's my joy. JP Thuminad is an incredible talent. He knows his path. We have others in the team, like Guru, who can direct. There's a pool of good talent I want to support."

"I'm just enjoying the orange alert on BookMyShow": JP Thuminad

Director JP Thuminad, who became an overnight sensation with the film, is still processing the response. "I honestly didn't expect this. I don't know how to react," he says, visibly moved. "Our only goal was to entertain. This kind of love from the audience, it's overwhelming."

Thuminad is relishing the moment, especially the buzz online. "I'm just enjoying watching BookMyShow—the grey 'sold out' alerts and the orange alert banners. It's surreal." As he meets audiences and gets up close with their reactions, he admits he's speechless. "This show has just begun, and I'm loving every bit of it."

JP Thuminad

Raj B Shetty

CE FEATURES

PARANORMAL SUBJECTS ARE TRICKY: RAJANI BHARADWAJ

A role in *Choomantar* (2025) brought Rajani Bharadwaj some attention, and she's now back in the spotlight. Fondly known as the Mogra girl, she returns in *Kamarottu 2*, a proper paranormal film, directed by Paramesh. A sequel to the critically acclaimed *Kamarottu Checkpost* (2019), the film builds on the eerie atmosphere of the original with a more refined approach.

"When you're part of the original world, stepping into the sequel feels both exciting and challenging," says Rajani.

The rushes of *Kamarottu 2* set up a chilling supernatural thriller. It opens with a couple (Rajani and Swaminathan Anantharaman) moving into a coastal house in Kamarottu, only to encounter strange and disturbing events. The tension escalates with the arrival of Sara (Priyanka Upendra), a sharp and multilingual paranormal investigator searching for her missing sister.

The footage suggests a psychological and atmospheric horror built on suspense, emotion, and mood rather than gore. With layered characters, moody visuals, and an intriguing setup, *Kamarottu 2* promises to be a gripping continuation of the first film.

"*Kamarottu Checkpost* was made with newcomers and appreciated for its fresh concept," Rajani recalls. "For the sequel, the director chose a more experienced and technically strong crew. Prajwal, who's worked with Bhuvan, handles cinematography. Priyanka Upendra is also in the cast, along with Swaminathan, known for Mithuna Raashi, and Raghavendra Rajkumar."

Rajani plays an Ayurvedic doctor and shares, "We shot in Mangaluru, exploring some unique locations that add to the story's depth."

Talking about the genre, she says, "Paranormal subjects are tricky. You don't always need to see the ghost or presence — you just need to feel it. Like when you're washing your face and sense something behind you. That's where imagination comes in. It's what makes paranormal stories so fascinating."

Even though *Choomantar* had horror elements, she says this film is very different and was drawn to Kamarottu for its strong script and fresh storytelling. Rajani says she enjoyed working with a director who knew how to draw the right performance from his actors. "There are times when you're seen as just a glam doll. But here, I got to shed that image and truly be part of a story that focused on the genre. Interestingly, I hadn't seen the original *Kamarottu Checkpost*, and neither had most of us. The director's narration was so detailed and compelling, we didn't need to refer back. The film was inspired by an old magazine article about the real *Kamarottu Checkpost*, but Paramesh gave it his own creative twist."

The actor, who plays an Ayurvedic doctor in *Kamarottu 2*, the sequel to *Kamarottu Checkpost* reflects on working in a film with layered characters and eerie settings

Rajani Bharadwaj

CE FEATURES

The Devil completes shoot and dubbing, gears up for the big screen

DARSHAN-starrer *The Devil* has officially wrapped up the film's shoot and dubbing procedure. The team recently returned from a 10-day schedule in Thailand, where they filmed two song sequences in Bangkok. With this, the entire shoot of the film has been completed. Simultaneously, dubbing work for all characters, including Darshan, has also been wrapped up.

Directed by Prakash Veer, who has also penned the story and screenplay, *The Devil* is being mounted on a grand scale under the banner of Sri Jai Matha Combines. The film's shoot spanned across various locations, including Bengaluru, Rajasthan, and Bangkok. With post-production now underway in full swing, the team is eyeing an early release.

Ever since its announcement, *The Devil* has generated a buzz, especially with Darshan's new look in the posters drawing attention. The makers have announced that one of the songs will be released soon as part of the film's promotional campaign.

The technical crew includes cinematographer Sudhakar S Raj, music composer B Ajaneesh Loknath, editor Harish Komme, art director Mohan B Kere, and stunt choreographer duo of Ram-Lakshman. Rachana Rai plays the female lead opposite Darshan. The ensemble cast features Tulasi, Achyuth Kumar, Mahesh Manjrekar, Srinivas Prabhu, and Shobh Raj.